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## CHAPTER I.

### GENERAL.

M. E. 1103 (August 1927—August 1928).

Travancore (Malayalam—Thiruvithankur) is the most southern of Indian States and occupies the south-west portion of the Indian peninsula. It forms an irregular triangle, with its apex at Cape Comorin,

*Situation and Area.* between  $8^{\circ}4'$  and  $10^{\circ}22'$  North Latitude

and between  $76^{\circ}13'$  and  $77^{\circ}38'$  East

Longitude. Travancore is bounded on the north by the State of Cochin and the British district of Coimbatore. The British districts of Madura and Tinnevely constitute its eastern boundary and on the west and south lie the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean. The State has an area of 7,625 square miles, its extreme length from north to south being 174 miles and its extreme width 75 miles.

2. The Western Ghats form a continuous mountain chain of varying altitude from north to south walling in the State on its eastern boundary. From these heights the country undulates to the west over hills of dense vegetation till it reaches the cultivated plains which skirt the backwaters and

*Physical Features.* the Arabian Sea. Extensive tea and cardamom plantations occupy most of the higher elevations; pepper, rubber, ginger and turmeric flourish on the lesser uplands; and in both regions are reserved forests of valuable timber both of virgin growth and of scientific planting. There are stretches of rice cultivation terraced along the valleys and this cultivation is also extensively carried on in the irrigated areas towards the south, in the

Nanjinad in the south, and in the fens and reclamations of Kuttanad in North Travancore. The broad coast-belt and the shores of the back-waters are covered with dense cocoanut plantations, while all over the plains are grown in addition, around homesteads a variety of trees such as the areca, the jack, the mango, the tamarind, the cashew, etc. Tapioca is cultivated almost everywhere in the lower levels and the raising of yams, beans and gram is not inconsiderable. The State reserved forests cover an extent of slightly less than a third of the entire area and are well timbered with teak, blackwood, ebony, jack, anjili, etc. The elephant, the leopard, the bison, the bear, the sambur and a variety of small game are plentiful in the forests. Characteristic features of the country are the broad lagoons or backwaters connected by navigable canals along the entire littoral and the numerous rivers and streams flowing westward to the sea. No extremes of temperature are known in the low country the prevailing characteristic of which is a warm humidity. But the country cools as it climbs to the bracing heights of Peermade, the Cardamom Hills, the High Range and the Pomudi Hills. Travancore receives a share of both the South-West and the North-East monsoons, the former in a larger measure than the latter. The South-West monsoon begins about the middle of Idavam (May-June) and the North-East monsoon commences in the month of Thulam (October-November). The rainfall is generally heavy, averaging about 89 inches per year. Rice, fish and tapioca are the staple food of the people.

3. The population of the State, according to the Census of 1921, is 4,006,062 (2,032,553 males and 1,973,509 females), which shows an increase of 16·8 per cent

*Population.* over the figure at the previous Census, viz., 3,428,975. There was thus in 1921 an average density of 525 persons to the square mile. If the area under forest and the backwaters are excluded, the populated area is under 5,000 square miles which would show a density of population of approximately 801 to the square mile. The present population is estimated at about 4,400,000 which would give, on the above bases, a density of 577 or 880

respectively to the square mile. The principal towns are Trivandrum (the capital), Nagercoil, Quilon,

*Distribution.* Alleppey, Kottayam, Changanachery, Shencotta and Colachel. Villages and village life are known only in South Travancore. Elsewhere the conditions are rural or semi-rural and the people live in detached homesteads, each nestling in its own tree-planted and walled-in garden. Hinduism is the predominant religion and its followers, divided into various caste groupings,

*Religion.* constituted about two-thirds (2,549,664) of the entire population at the Census of 1921, while the denominations of Christians, including the ancient Syrian Christians, represent more than one-fourth (1,172,934). Mahomedans number about one-fifteenth (270,478). The Hindus have increased by 11.7 per cent, the Mahomedans by 19.4 per cent and Christians by 29.8 per cent during the last decennial period. There has long been a small body of European and American residents in the State and their number was approximately six hundred during the year under report.

*Position of Women.*

Except among a small section of immigrant Moslems and among Nambudiri Brahmins the purdah system is unknown in Travancore. Women generally enjoy a freedom unique in the State and their complete equality with men as well as their general education has brought about their active participation in affairs.

4. In area Travancore occupies the seventeenth place among the Indian States. In population it holds the third place.

*Travancore compared with other States.* Although Hyderabad is eleven times as large as Travancore, it is only thrice as populous. Mysore, Gwalior and the neighbour Crown Colony of Ceylon are

four times as extensive but the number of their peoples is only one and one-half, three-fourths and nine-eighths respectively of that of Travancore. Baroda which is of about the same area has only between one-half and three-fourths of its population. In revenue as in population Travancore ranks after Hyderabad and Mysore.

5. The early history of Travancore is in great part traditional; but there is little doubt that the Maharaja is the representative of the Chera dynasty, one of the three great Hindu dynasties which exercised sovereignty at one time in Southern India.

*Historical Sketch.*

In later historic times the country now comprised in Travancore consisted of some four or five separate States, the more important of which were Attingal, Venad and Desinganad and it was with these that the Portuguese, the Dutch, the Danes and the English first had relations. The English first settled at Anjengo which they obtained on a grant from the queen of Attingal in 1684. Marthanda Varma, son of the queen of Attingal, became in 1729 the Adhipadi of Venad. He succeeded in crushing the Ettuveetil Pillamar, the feudal chieftains of the eight desoms, who had striven against the power of the Rajas for over a century. Thereafter he grew in strength and power and, having amalgamated the Attingal State with Venad on a treaty engagement that none but the offspring of the Ranis of Attingal shall succeed to the amalgamated State, he proceeded on a campaign of conquest with the help of his able minister Ramien Dalava and the Venad Valia Captain, Eustachius Benedictus deLannoy who was captured in a Dutch frigate and whom the Raja had befriended. By the time of Marthanda Varma's death in 1758 practically the whole of modern Travancore had been brought under his sway. He established order, settled the country and dedicated it to Sri Padmanabha Swami and he and his successors, Rajas or Ranis of Travancore, have since ruled as the Dasas or Sevais of the Deity. In the wars in which the East India Company were engaged in the Karnatic and in Mysore in the 18th century, the Travancore State rendered military assistance to the British. Travancore was reckoned as one of the staunchest allies of the British Power and was included in the Treaty made in 1784 between the East India Company and the Sultan of Mysore. In view of the protection of the State from possible inroads by Tippu Sultan, an arrangement was come to in 1788 with the East India Company, and in 1795 a formal treaty was concluded, by which the Company agreed to protect Travancore from all foreign enemies. In 1805 a new treaty was signed and

the annual payment for a British subsidiary force was fixed at eight lakhs of British rupees. Since then the history of the State has been one of steady development and well-ordered progress under a succession of able and enlightened rulers.

6. The official year in Travancore is reckoned according to the Malabar Era or the Kollam Era said to date from the rebuilding of Kollam or Quilon 1,104 years

*The Calendar.* ago. The year begins about the middle of August. The months are named after the zodiacal signs. The longest month has 32 days and the shortest 29 days. There is no leap-year as in the Gregorian Calendar.

7. Travancore has its own coinage of the silver fanam (2·3 annas); the bronze chuckram (6·74 pies);

*The Currency.* and the cash ('42 pies). It mints also its own silver half-rupee (14 chuckrams) and quarter-rupee (7 chuckrams). The British Indian rupee is also in free circulation.

8. The State has its own postal service, known as the Anchal, and issues its own stamps. Its

*The Anchal.* Anchal Offices also transact Savings Bank business and issue Hundis or money orders.

#### The Ruling Family.

9. His Highness Sri Padmanabha Dasa, Vanchi Pala, Rama Varma, Kulasekhara Kiritapathi, Manney Sultan, Maharaja Raja Ramaraja Bahadur, Shamsheer Jang, Maharaja of Travancore, was born on the 7th November 1912 and his succession to the Musnad was recognised by the British Government on the 1st September 1924. His Highness is entitled to a salute of 19 guns. Owing to the minority of His Highness the Maharaja, Her Highness Sri Padmanabha Sevini, Vanchi Dharma Vardhini, Raja Rajeswari, Maharani Setu Lekshmi Bai, Maharaja, Attingal Mootha Tampuran, (born 19th November 1895) was proclaimed by the British Government "Regent to rule the Travancore State and control the administration thereof until His Highness the Maharaja shall have completed his eighteenth year and has been formally invested with ruling powers." Her Highness assumed ruling powers on the 1st September 1924.

The Marumakkathayam law governs the succession which further is confined to the offspring of the Attingal Ranis. Her Highness the Maharani Regent and the Junior Maharani of Travancore (born 8th November 1896) were adopted into the family on the 31st August 1900. His Highness the Maharaja is the eldest son of the Junior Maharani. A daughter was born to the Junior Maharani on the 17th September 1916 and a second son on the 22nd March 1922. A daughter was born to Her Highness the Maharani Regent on the 30th December 1923 and a second daughter was born to Her Highness on the 23rd October 1926.

10. Mr. D. W. Dodwell of the Indian Civil Service who was tutor to His Highness the Maharaja reverted to the British service in April 1928. He was succeeded by Captain G. T. B. Harvey, B. A. (Cantab). He took charge of his duties as tutor in June 1928. His Highness made

*His Highness's* satisfactory progress in his studies in  
*Education.* English History, European History and

Indian History. His Highness took interest in the historical aspect of English literature and read a few plays of Shakespeare with zest and intelligence. He had a few lessons in Geography, both historical and commercial, and the subject seemed to have interested him. His written compositions have shown proofs of careful thought and reading and were satisfactory in style and diction. His Highness's studies in Sanskrit and Malayalam were supervised by the Pandit, Mr. A. Krishna Pisharodi. Portions of Raghuvamsa, Bhartrihari's Nitisataka, Hitopadesa, Karikavali, Muktavali, Laghubodhini, Chandraloka and Abhijnana were gone through during the year. Translation of texts from Sanskrit to Malayalam and *vice versa* received special attention. His Highness's physical development was carefully attended to and was marked by his increasing proficiency in horsemanship and outdoor-games.

11. His Highness the Maharaja accompanied by His Highness's mother, the Junior Maharani, visited Ootacamund, Madras, Bombay, Calcutta, Benares and Delhi during the year.

*His Highness's*  
*Tours.*

12. His Excellency Field Marshal Sir William Birdwood, Bart., G. C. B., G. C. M. G., K. C. S. I., C. I. E., D. S. O., Commander-in-Chief in India, visited the State in November 1927. His Excellency's *Commander-in-Chief's Visit.* itinerary included Kottayam, Peermade, the Periyar Lake, Quilon, Trivandrum, Udayagiri and the Cape.

**The British Representative.**

13. In the year 1800 the first British Resident accredited to the Court of Travancore, took up his residence in the State. British Residents continued until the 1st October 1923 when, Travancore having been taken into direct relations with the Government of India, the British Resident's style and title was altered to Agent to the Governor-General, Madras States. His headquarters are at Trivandrum. Mr. C. W. E. Cotton, C. I. E., who was Agent to the Governor-General throughout 1102 M. E., reverted to his substantive appointment in Madras during the year and was succeeded by Lieut.-Col. C. G. Crosthwaite, C. B. E.

## CHAPTER II.

### SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT.

The Ruler of Travancore is the source of all authority, judicial, administrative or legislative. For more than half a century the Rulers have treated the revenues

*The Ruler.* of the State as public funds in the strictest sense of the term, appropriating to their own use a very modest civil list which is exhibited in the annual budget of the State. The proportion of the civil list in comparison with the total revenues has been steadily declining. The percentage was 8.76 in 1062, 6.86 in 1072, 6.57 in 1082, 4.04 in 1092, 3.83 in 1102 and only 3.69 in 1103 M. E.

2. The Government of the country is conducted in the name and under the control of Her Highness the Maharani Regent.

The Dewan is Her Highness's Minister.

*The Chief Executive Officer.* He is appointed by a Neet or Commission under Sign Manual. The Dewan is assisted by an organised Secretariat closely resembling that of the Government of India and a public service constituted more or less on the British Indian model.

3. The entire administration is carried on through several well organised departments. The activities of these departments and their constitution are separately and

*Administration.* briefly described in the following chapters.

Every administrative head has to address his proposals to the Government and these recommendations are carefully considered in the Secretariat and, where necessary, are scrutinised by the Account and Audit Office. The decisions of Government, which in olden times were issued under the signature of the head of the administration in the form of *chattavariolas*

(palm leaves) and later on in vernacular communications on paper, have for many years past been issued in English by the Chief Secretary to Government in the form of orders, proceedings or letters. The commands of the Ruler are always issued in the form of Proclamations or *Neets* under Sign Manual. Except for purposes of legislation and the conduct of important ceremonies of State, the Ruler rarely issues such direct commands in matters affecting the public administration. All notifications, proceedings and other matters to be made known generally are published in the Government Gazette which is issued weekly in English and in the Vernacular. The Gazette is now in its sixty-sixth year. The history of Travancore for nearly a century without interruption reveals the fact that the administration, early and steadily adapting itself to modern forms of Government without entirely losing its Hindu characteristics and ideals, has been conducted with a view to the maintenance of law and order and the progressive well-being of the country. A Code of Regulations for Travancore was first promulgated in 1835. Of these, Regulations I to VII of 1010 M. E. provide for the working, powers and jurisdiction of law courts. Parts of I and IV survive on the statute book. Both relate to interest awardable in decrees. As the years went by, Travancore has become an increasingly active "Legislation State."

4. The revenue of the State is derived mainly from a system of (a) direct taxation, (b) indirect taxation, (c) commercial services, and (d) levies in connection with specific services. Taxation is covered by authority conferred by various statutory enactments;

*Taxation.* the tax payer's obligations are defined and known; and collection is made on an established system. There are only two sources of revenue by direct taxation, viz., land revenue and income tax. The incidence of taxation per head of population in the case of land revenue was in the year under report 14-86 annas, working on the present estimated population of 4,400,000. Taxes falling within the second category are for the most part duties on raw products or manufactured goods exported from Travancore, such as tea, coir, fibre, yarn, other products of the cocoanut palm, pepper, salt-fish, turmeric, vegetable-oils, etc. There is also a

system of import duties for the most part based on the British Indian tariff. The general stamp revenue is also appreciable. Next come indirect taxes, both fiscal and restraining in character, such as import duty on foreign liquor and excise on country liquor. The income derived from salt and tobacco is considerable. The commercial and quasi-commercial departments yielding revenue are the Forest, Anchal and Railways. Under class (d) is an appreciable income derived from such specific services as registration of documents, court fees and tolls.

5. The budget is framed annually and assigns most of the income of the year to the well-being of the people. Education,

*Application of  
Revenue.*

public health, medical relief, the protection of person and property, the administration of justice, and the provision of communications and irrigation consume the bulk

of the taxes.

#### The Legislative Council.

6. The work of legislation ordinarily rests with the Legislative Council brought into existence as long ago as 1868, the

*Early Constitution.*

Ruler's right of direct legislation, independently of the Council, nevertheless remaining unimpaired. The Legislative Council established forty years ago was the first institution of the kind in the history of an Indian State. The first Council had a minimum of 5 members and a maximum of 8, of whom not less than 2 were non-officials. These non-officials were nominated by Government. The Council was purely a deliberative body for purposes of legislation, and had no administrative functions. But it had plenary powers of legislation subject to the Ruler's assent before a measure could pass into law. The only other restriction was that in introducing a measure affecting the public revenues of the State or by which any charge was imposed on such revenues, the member introducing it had to obtain the previous sanction of

*Freedom of Vote.* the Dewan. Every member, official and non-official, had independent powers of discussion and voting. In 1898, the Council was enlarged, the minimum number of members being 8 and the maximum 15, the

proportion of non-officials being fixed at two-fifths of the total number. The previous sanction of the

*Limitation of  
Scope.*

Dewan was made necessary not only for measures affecting the public revenues but also for those affecting the religion or religious rites and usages of any class. The Council was not allowed to entertain any measure affecting the Ruling Family or relations with the Paramount Power. The non-official members were at first nominated and lately four of them were appointed on the recommendation of the members of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly for each of the four revenue divisions of the State. With the enlargement of the Council and the consequent increase in the number of non-official

*Vote Grouping.*

members, the official votes coalesced. The second Council was again remodelled in 1919 by Regulation 1 of 1095 M. E. The constituting measure was promulgated directly by the late Maharaja. Provision was made for granting the people the right of electing members to the Council, while reserving to the Government the right of nominating some of the non-official

*Administrative  
Contact.*

members. The franchise was fairly broad-based. A limited right to interpellate Government and to discuss the annual budget was also conceded. The Council retained the old powers of legislation except that it was expressly prohibited from considering and enacting any measure affecting the provisions of the Regulation itself, that is to say, it could not alter its own constitution. The prerogative of the Ruler to make and pass Regulations independent of the Council was also

*Ruler's Prerogative.*

expressly affirmed. The Council was again enlarged by Regulation 11 of 1097, promulgated by the Ruler direct. This was passed on the 2nd October 1921 and is still in force. Under the new constitution, the Council is composed of 50 members, of whom 28 are elected and 22 nominated, only 15 out of the latter being

*Elected Majority.*

officials. The Dewan is the President of the Council, but a Deputy President, who need not necessarily be an official, is also appointed to preside at the meetings of the Council in the

absence of the President. The Council is invested with powers of voting on the budget, moving resolutions

*Administrative* and asking questions. During the budget  
*Activities.* debate the "token motion" is freely re-

sorted to for bringing under discussion and vote Government measures and policies. The power of certification of budget demands refused or reduced by the Council and of legislative measures thrown out or altered, is reserved; but so far the Government have had no occasion for recourse to this power. All persons who are regis-

*The Franchise.* tered, holders, inamdars, tenants or *kudiyans* of land, the annual value of which is

not less than Rs. 5, persons who are assessed in a municipality to land or building tax of not less than Rs. 3 and in the town of Trivandrum of not less than Re. 1, or professional tax of any amount; persons who are assessed to income-tax, all graduates of recognised Universities who are not undergoing a course of instruction in a recognised institution, and all discharged, retired or pensioned officers of the Nayar Brigade, or His Majesty's Army or Navy, residing in Travancore, are eligible for the exercise of the franchise in the general constituencies, provided that they are not of unsound mind as judged by a competent court of law and are not under twenty-one years of age. Apart from this general electorate, there are special constituencies comprising the planting community, the *jenmies*, the proprietors of *Edavakas* and political pensioners and the interests of commerce and industry. Women are placed on a footing of complete

equality with men in the matter both of the franchise and of membership. The prohibition relating to the discussion of reserved

*Votes for Women.* subjects or the consideration of measures affecting the provisions of the Legislative Council Regulation is retained in the Regulation. The introduction of certain measures into the Council likewise requires the previous sanction of the Dewan. Every legislative measure passed by the Council requires the assent of the Ruler. The provisions of the old Regulation for the framing of emergency Regulations by the

*Emergency Legis-* Dewan and the affirmation of the Sovereign's  
*lation.* right to legislate independently of the Council are also retained.

### The Popular Assembly.

7. To afford the people an opportunity of expressing direct to the Government their wants and wishes and of representing their views regarding administrative measures adopted from time to time, His

*Objects.*

Highness the late Maharaja was pleased to command that an Assembly under the designation of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly should be constituted. Another object was to enable the Government to learn at first hand how their actions affected the people and to have the benefit of the suggestions of the latter regarding public measures. The Assembly meets once every year. The first session was held in October 1904. The members were then nominated by Government from among the agricultural, trading, industrial and other classes. From the second year, the privilege of electing members to the Assembly was granted to the people. The total

number of members of the Assembly is 100,  
*Composition.* of whom 77 are elected and 23 nominated.

Nominations are made by Government to represent any interest or community which may otherwise fail to be represented. Every person who pays on his own account an annual land revenue of not less than fifty rupees, or whose net annual income is not less than two thousand rupees, and every graduate of a recognised University of not less than ten years' standing and having his residence in the taluk, is given the privilege of election. In addition to this general constituency, the municipal councils, the planters' associations, the mercantile and trading classes, and the Jemmies are also allowed to return representatives to the Assembly. Each member is allowed to bring forward two subjects at the Assembly. The Assembly opens with an address by the Dewan. The members are then

called upon to make their representations on the subjects which they have notified and the Dewan replies in the name and on behalf of Government. Representations, not disposed of on the spot by the Dewan, are subsequently examined and considered. The final decisions of Government

*Business Proceedings.*

are conveyed to the members and are now embodied in a printed statement issued before the next

*Value of the Session.* The Assembly has proved to be of invaluable help to the Government in that its members bring to the Dewan's

notice by direct personal representation the needs of the people. During the past 24 years much that the Government has done for the amelioration of the condition of the people is directly ascribable to this personal contact between the Government and the governed: the Assembly is an annual assertion of the peoples' right, made manifest by their representations through its members, to be well governed.

# CHAPTER III.

## FINANCE.

The following statement compares the revenue and expenditure of the year with those of the preceding year.  
(Figures are in lakhs of rupees.)

| Revenue.                                     |             |             |                        | Expenditure.                                                                                       |             |             |                        |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Head of Account.                             | 1935<br>Rs. | 1936<br>Rs. | Increase+<br>Decrease— | Head of Account.                                                                                   | 1935<br>Rs. | 1936<br>Rs. | Increase+<br>Decrease— |
| Land Revenue                                 | 49.92       | 41.92       | — 08                   | Land Revenue and<br>Taxes on Income                                                                | 19.66       | 32.72       | + 12.06                |
| Taxes on Income                              | 8.99        | 0.30        | + 8.69                 | Salt, Excise and<br>Customs                                                                        | 2.98        | 5.59        | + 2.61                 |
| Salt                                         | 10.00       | 10.12       | + 0.12                 | Excise                                                                                             | 7.93        | 7.83        | — 0.10                 |
| Excise (on) Alcohol<br>and Opium             | 31.99       | 29.98       | + 2.01                 | Stamp                                                                                              | —           | —           | —                      |
| (a) Tobacco                                  | 27.99       | 22.98       | + 5.01                 | Registration                                                                                       | 3.99        | 2.98        | + 1.01                 |
| Casinos                                      | 20.21       | 21.35       | + 1.14                 | Interest on Debt                                                                                   | —           | —           | —                      |
| Produce                                      | 15.18       | 12.91       | + 2.27                 | Shaking Fund                                                                                       | 3.11        | 3.10        | + 0.01                 |
| Stamp                                        | 20.70       | 20.61       | + 0.09                 | Change                                                                                             | —           | —           | —                      |
| Registration                                 | 8.78        | 5.90        | + 2.88                 | Police                                                                                             | 1.87        | 1.87        | — 0.00                 |
| Interest                                     | 10.98       | 11.07       | — 0.09                 | General Adminis-<br>tration                                                                        | 1.14        | 1.14        | — 0.00                 |
| Education                                    | 9.91        | 9.15        | + 0.76                 | Administration of<br>Justice                                                                       | 10.02       | 11.15       | + 1.13                 |
| Public Works (Co-<br>ordinating Man-<br>ual) | 2.90        | 2.21        | + 0.69                 | Army, Navy and<br>Air                                                                              | 17.17       | 12.16       | + 5.01                 |
| Productive Pro-<br>perties (Not<br>Receipts) | 1.18        | 1.03        | + 0.15                 | Education                                                                                          | 39.09       | 41.91       | + 2.82                 |
| Railway De.                                  | 1.10        | 0.1         | + 1.00                 | Agriculture and<br>Forestry                                                                        | 3.08        | 2.12        | + 0.96                 |
| Local De.                                    | —           | —           | —                      | Industries<br>and<br>Handicrafts                                                                   | 1.28        | 1.28        | — 0.00                 |
| Other Receipts                               | 5.11        | 0.00        | + 5.11                 | Health                                                                                             | 0.11        | 0.00        | + 0.11                 |
| Total of Cur-<br>rent Receipts               | 200.53      | 200.5       | + 0.03                 | Development (in-<br>cluding contribu-<br>tions to the Fund and<br>State Grants)                    | 29.00       | 29.00       | — 0.00                 |
| Sale proceeds of<br>Government<br>lands      | 1.10        | 1.00        | + 0.10                 | Public Works in<br>dividing Protective<br>Imprests, Muz-<br>a and Irrigation<br>(Capital accounts) | 20.72       | 20.72       | — 0.00                 |
|                                              |             |             |                        | Public and Public<br>Administration                                                                | 10.22       | 11.15       | + 0.93                 |
|                                              |             |             |                        | Superannuation, Pen-<br>sion etc.                                                                  | 2.00        | 2.00        | — 0.00                 |
|                                              |             |             |                        | Other Items                                                                                        | 0.00        | 0.00        | — 0.00                 |
|                                              |             |             |                        | Total Expenditure<br>(Ordinary)                                                                    | 200.53      | 200.50      | + 0.03                 |
|                                              |             |             |                        | Capital Expenditure<br>not charged to<br>Revenue                                                   | —           | —           | —                      |
|                                              |             |             |                        | Public Trusts and<br>Railways                                                                      | —           | —           | —                      |
|                                              |             |             |                        | Water Supply                                                                                       | 0.01        | 0.00        | + 0.01                 |
|                                              |             |             |                        | Public Works                                                                                       | —           | —           | —                      |
|                                              |             |             |                        | Total                                                                                              | 0.00        | 0.00        | — 0.00                 |
| Grand Total of<br>Receipts                   | 201.63      | 201.50      | + 0.13                 | Grand Total of<br>Expenditure                                                                      | 200.53      | 200.50      | + 0.03                 |

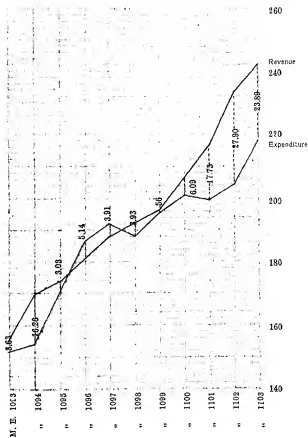
The ordinary Revenue of the year was Rs. 242·29 lakhs. This was Rs. 9·76 lakhs more than in the previous year. The expenditure out of revenue stood at Rs. 218·40 lakhs and was Rs. 13·77 lakhs more than in the preceding year. The surplus amounted to Rs. 23·89 lakhs against Rs. 27·90 lakhs in 1102. The capital receipts from the sale proceeds of Government lands amounted to Rs. 5·86 lakhs and the capital expenditure not charged to revenue to Rs. 2·74 lakhs. The balance at credit under 'Government Account' which was Rs. 136·59 lakhs at the beginning of the year rose to Rs. 163·60 lakhs at its close.

2. Nearly 85 per cent of the revenue was derived from land, Taxes on Income, Salt, Excise, Customs, Forests, Stamps and Registration. The following heads of revenue showed increases over the figures of the previous year :—
- Revenue.*

Taxes on Income (Rs. 1·01 lakhs), Salt (Rs. 2·28 lakhs), Excise—Abkari and Opium (Rs. 1 lakh), Tobacco (Rs. 2·27 lakhs), Customs (Rs. 1·35 lakhs), Stamps (Rs. 1·68 lakhs) and Registration (Rs. 1·03 lakhs). There were decreases under Land Revenue (Rs. ·63 lakh) Interest and Discount (Rs. 1·18 lakhs) and Railways net (Rs. 1·25 lakhs). The increase under Income Tax was from 'tax on income derived from business' and to some extent, due to lower payments in refunds. The increase in Salt revenue was due to larger sales. The larger consumption of home salt resulted in larger recoveries of transport charges which are credited as revenue in the accounts. The increase under Excise—Abkari was small but Opium and Ganja yielded Rs. ·61 lakh more, on account of larger rentals and rebate obtained from British India on an additional 1,000 seers of Ganja obtained in the year. The increase under Tobacco was due to larger sales. Under Customs, though there was a net increase, it was merely due to less refunds of duty on tea exported from British Indian ports, the gross receipts having shown a fall of Rs. ·71 lakh. Revenue from exports showed a decrease of Rs. 2·81 lakhs which was compensated to some extent by a larger yield under imports. Under Stamps, nearly two thirds of the increase was

**REVENUE.**  
(EXCLUDING SALE PROCEEDS OF GOVERNMENT LANDS)  
**AND EXPENDITURE**  
(CHARGED TO REVENUE)

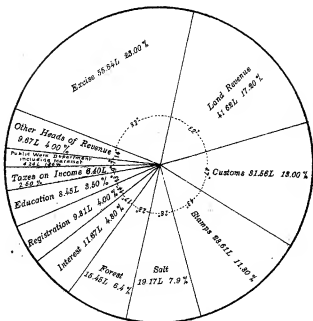
Lakhs of Rupees



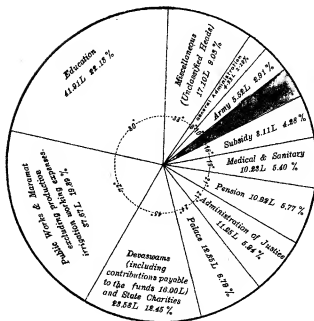
Note:—Cost of collection of Revenue is included under expenditure in this diagram.

**Proportion of the Gross Revenue Receipts of the State**

*for 1103 M. E. under the various Heads to  
the total ordinary Revenue.  
(in lakhs of rupees).*



**Proportion of Expenditure of the State**  
*for 1105 M. E. under various Heads, to the total*  
*Expenditure (Charged to Revenue)*  
*Excluding Collection Charges treated as*  
*direct demands on Revenue.*  
*(in lakhs of rupees).*



contributed by 'General Stamps'. The increase under Registration was due to the progress of partitioning of *taravads* consequent on the Nair, Ezhava and Vellala Regulations. The decrease under Land Revenue was mainly under 'Arrears', under which there were smaller outstandings to be collected in the year. Under Interest, there were in fact larger receipts from investments (Rs. 2.71 lakhs) but owing to a smaller investment in Government paper in the year, there was a reduction in the adjustment for discount on such purchases which is made in the accounts as all securities whether bought at premium or discount are shown in the books at par, as a matter of convenience. Under Railways, the fall was due to the net receipts from the Shencotta-Trivandrum Railway during the year ended March 1928 having amounted only to Rs. '94 lakh against Rs. 2.19 lakhs in the previous year. The receipts did not fully cover the 4 per cent interest on Government's Capital investment on the Quilon-Trivandrum extension which is a prior charge before distribution of any profits on the whole of the Travancore Railway line.

3. The expenditure charged to Revenue rose from Rs. 204.63 lakhs to Rs. 218.40 lakhs. The larger increases were under Public Works (Rs. 7.95 lakhs) and

*Expenditure.* Education (Rs. 2.52 lakhs), the expenditure being nearly Rs. 42 lakhs under Education and Rs. 37.7 lakhs under P. W. D. Part of the increase under education was due to the departmental printing of the new Malayalam readers the expenditure on which would be recouped on the sale of the readers, and to normal expansion to meet increasing demands. The Medical and Sanitary Departments showed an increase of nearly half a lakh, on account of special plague prevention charges that were necessary in the year. Pension charges also went up in the year by a similar amount. There was an increase of nearly three-fourths of a lakh under Salt but this was due to transport charges on a larger quantity of home salt transferred from South Travancore for consumption in Quilon and Alleppey. The recoveries of these charges appear under Revenue. There was also an increase of Rs. '93 lakh under Miscellaneous Political expenditure. There was a decrease under

'Palace' under 'Panivagai Expenditure' and owing to the Thirumadampu Ceremony of His Highness the Maha Raja having been a special item of expenditure in the previous year.

4. The Capital Expenditure not charged to Revenue amounted to Rs. 2.74 lakhs against Rs. .69 lakh in 1102, the increase being due mainly to the outlay during the year on the Trivandrum Electric Supply (Rs. 1.14 lakhs) and the Trivandrum Water Works (Rs. .50 lakh) schemes. The Chakai-Thampanur Railway extension was taken up in the year, Rs. .41 lakh being spent on land acquisition.

5. The Assets and Liabilities on the books of Government at the close of 1103 stood as under :—

*Assets and Liabilities.*

| Liabilities.                                              | Assets.                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Rs.                                                       | Rs.                                                                                    |
| i. Devaswam Fund (balance on the books of Government.) .. | i. Cash Balances (a) in Treasury .. 34.11                                              |
| 2.67                                                      | (b) with the Imperial Bank of India on Current Account .. 18.35                        |
| ii. Savings Bank Deposits ..                              | ii. Investments of Surplus.                                                            |
| 68.55                                                     | (a) in short-term Fixed Deposits with Banks .. 12.23                                   |
| iii. Deposits of Service and other Funds ..               | (b) in Government of India Paper (at face value) .. 138.69                             |
| 4.17                                                      | iii. Special deposits and shares in industrial and other concerns, bearing interest .. |
| iv. Deposits of Sinking Funds ..                          | (a) Travancore Sugars shares (fully paid up) .. 2.54                                   |
| 53.93                                                     | (b) Deposits with the State Aided Bank .. 1.98                                         |
| v. Departmental and other Deposits ..                     |                                                                                        |
| 34.45                                                     |                                                                                        |
| vi. Accounts with Foreign States ..                       |                                                                                        |
| .70                                                       |                                                                                        |
| vii. Suspense Account, Creditor balances ..               |                                                                                        |
| .23                                                       |                                                                                        |

| Liabilities.                                                    |            | Assets.                                                                          |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
|                                                                 | Rs.        |                                                                                  | Rs.        |
| viii. Loans from the Public-5 per cent. Defence Loan of 1991 .. | 14.75      | iv. Deposits, not bearing interest (a) with the Imperial Bank of India ..        | 2.54       |
| ix. Resultant (cheques, handies etc.) ..                        | 5.89       | (b) Do. with the State-Aided Bank of Travancore ..                               | 2.13       |
| Government Account (Closing Balance) ..                         | 168.50     | v. Sinking Fund Investments (in Government of India Securities at face value) .. | 53.98      |
|                                                                 |            | vi. Bullion Account ..                                                           | 11         |
|                                                                 |            | vii. Advances (under all items) ..                                               | 2.02       |
|                                                                 |            | viii. Departmental Balances ..                                                   | 51         |
|                                                                 |            | ix. Suspense Accounts (Debtor balances) ..                                       | 78         |
|                                                                 |            | x. Stock (P. W. D. salt, petty and opium and gunny) ..                           | 7.85       |
|                                                                 |            | xi. Loans advanced by Government ..                                              | 7.52       |
| Total ..                                                        | Rs. 340.03 | Total ..                                                                         | Rs. 340.03 |

The Government account balance rose from Rs. 136.59 lakhs at the commencement of the year to Rs. 163.6 lakhs at its close. This is after meeting the capital outlay of Rs. 2.74 lakhs not charged to revenue spent in the year. The net capital outlay on the larger schemes, financed from State funds, stood as follows, at the close of the year :—

|                                                                                                                                                                       | Rs.         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Kodayar Irrigation system                                                                                                                                             | 79.84 lakhs |
| Railway (Trivandrum-Quilon) (exclusive of capital of Rs. 141.19 lakhs provided by the Secretary of State for discharge of which a sinking fund is being accumulated.) | 54.41 ..    |
| Contribution to Cochin-Harbour works                                                                                                                                  | 3.83 ..     |

5. The sinking funds were created—one to repay the capital Railway outlay found by the Secretary of State for the Shencotta-Quilon Railway and the other for the due discharge of the 5 per cent tax free Debenture Loan of 1091 which matures in 1117. The fluid balance in cash and gilt edged securities which stood at Rs. 221·81 lakhs at the commencement of the year became Rs. 258·37 lakhs at its close. The increase was due to the larger Government account balance and to larger deposits in Government Savings Banks. Practically the whole of the surplus investments is made in Government of India securities, a small portion being in fixed deposit with the Imperial Bank of India. The special investments in industrial and banking concerns have been shown separately in the statement of assets. The 'Travancore Sugars', in which Government hold shares has not yet commenced working but the erection of the factory has been completed. Government increased the number of their shares in the concern, the additional sum paid in the year being Rs. 1·02 lakhs. The balance under 'loans' stood practically at the same figure as at the close of the previous year, owing to the grant of fresh loans for agricultural and industrial purposes nearly to the extent of the recoveries made in the year.

## CHAPTER IV.

### MAIN HEADS OF REVENUE.

**Land Revenue.**

*Land Revenue Commissioner. Mr. S. C. H. Robinson.*

*Dewan Peishkar, Quilon.* Mr. C. K. Mathan, B. A., B. L.

Commissioner, Deicolam. Mr. T. H. Cameron.

The lands in this State, generally speaking, fall into two distinct classes, one being *pandaravaka* (literally, belonging to the Sirkar) and the other *jennam* (belonging to a *jenni* or landlord). In both cases the rights of ryots are fixed and secure\* and are governed by statutes and custom, the ryot deriving his title from a *jenni* or the Sirkar. This circumstance, along with the consequential fact that the theoretical owner, *viz.*, the Sirkar or the *jenni*, might have demised the lands under, or subject to, a variety of *Fixity of Rights*, terms, has coloured the whole land revenue system and serves to explain the various land tenures long recognised in the State.

\* In respect of *unabhängiger* lunch, p. —

"2ndly. That the ryots holding these lands may regard them fully as private, heritable, saleable and otherwise transferable property....."

2. In the case of *pandaravaka* lands, held directly from the Sirkar, the tax due to the Sirkar is really *pattom* (rent) and it represents the share of the produce of the

*Principles of* land which the Sirkar is entitled to.  
*Taxation.* Jenmom lands are either entirely tax-free or

are subject to payment of *rajabhogam* (king's due). In the former category are the *devaswom* and *brahmaswom thanathu* lands which remain unalienated in the hands of the original *devaswoms* and *brahmaswoms*; but once they are alienated for a money consideration they are liable to pay the *rajabhogam*. The *rajabhogam* is a light tax varying from one-eighth to one-fourth of the standard assessment. The *pandara-pattom* lands are also subject to various rates of assessment varying from full assessment to absolute exemption from assessment. This peculiarity is due to historical, political and other causes.

3. The earliest revenue settlement of the lands in the State of which any records are available is of the year 914 M. E./1738 A. D. when Travancore lay within

*Revenue Settlements.* its own ancient limits. There have been subsequent settlements, in 926 M. E./1750

A. D., 948 M. E./1772 A. D., 978 M. E./1802 A. D., 993 M. E./1817 A. D. and 1012 M. E./1836 A. D. The last settlement commenced in 1883 and was completed in 1911. The tax fixed at this settlement has been declared permanent for a period of thirty years. The results of the settlement are exhibited in printed registers which give particulars of the extent, the tenure, the full *pattom*, the net *pattom*, etc., for each holding. Every parcel of land which came under settlement bears a separate survey number and the registers in effect constitute a record of rights.

4. At the last settlement, further, a serious attempt was made to systematise and simplify the tenures without generally increasing the incidence of taxation.

*Classification of Tenures.* Various tenure names are, however, still retained in the *Ayacut* or Settlement Register.

But these tenures fall into certain distinct and well-understood groups, whether grouped according to (1) the theoretical proprietorship of the lands, or (2) the nature of

the conditions of the holding both of which principles determine the incidence of taxation.

5. The assessment of wet lands is fixed on a yield basis, in paddy, determined by the seed or sowing capacity of the land and ranges from two-fifths to seven times the

*Method of Assessment.* measure of the seed sown in the case of single-crop lands and from three-fifths to

ten-and-a-half fold for double-crop lands.

The assessment of other lands, commonly called "garden lands," is fixed either on an acreage basis or on the trees grown, both not operating simultaneously. For example, if a holding of an acre has twenty cocoanut palms and ten jack trees, each is supposed to take up a certain number of cents of land as "standing room" and a specific rate of tree-tax is levied for each tree. The balance of the acre not thus taken up is assessed on the acreage basis, be it cultivated with, say, tapioca or banana or be it uncultivated. There are fourteen *tharams* or rates of acreage assessment.

6. Tax used to be collected in money as well as in kind, such as paddy, cocoanuts, etc. At the last settlement all taxation in kind, except paddy in respect

*Form of Tax Payment.* of paddy lands, was abolished and money payments substituted. This paddy tax was

commuted into money in respect of *pandaravaka* lands in 1081/1907 A. D. Payment of tax in kind continued in respect of Kandukrishi or Crown lands and the Sripadom lands of Attingal and Edacode Adhikarams which constitute the domain of the Attingal Ranis and which are administered by the Senior Maharani. Even this payment in kind was changed with effect from 1102 and a system of money payment introduced on the basis of *pandaravaka* lands.

7. For purposes of land revenue administration, the State is divided into four divisions under the general control of the Land Revenue Commissioner. Each division

*Land Revenue Administration.*

is composed of taluks under the charge of Tahsildars and each taluk is sub-divided into *pakuthies* which constitute the unit of

land revenue administration. The head of a *pakuthi* is called a Proverthicar. There are now 30 taluks and 432 *pakuthies*.

8. The year under report witnessed a further extension of cultivation. This is achieved by the operation of two sets of rules which regulate the assignment of

*Extension of Government lands for cultivation.* These are :—

(1) the Puduval Rules for the older and more general forms of agriculture devoted to the raising of grain, vegetables, fruits, spices, etc., and

(2) the Special Rules for the assignment of lands for the growing of cardamom, coffee, tea and rubber.

The areas assigned for cultivation during the last three years were :—

| Year.    | Total new area assigned for cultivation. | Under Puduval Rules. | Under Special Rules. |
|----------|------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|          | Acres.                                   | Acres.               | Acres.               |
| 1101 ... | 11,202                                   | 10,243               | 959                  |
| 1102 ... | 14,475                                   | 12,542               | 1,933                |
| 1103 ... | 11,668                                   | 11,575               | 93                   |

The total area assigned afresh for purposes of cultivation during the year under report fell short of the area registered during the previous year. This was due not to a diminution in the demand for new lands but to the delay in the final disposal of applications consequent on the time taken to prepare field measurement sketches and other survey records.

9. The total area under occupation during the year was 2,411,918 acres. This includes tax-paying and tax-free lands

*Distribution of Land.* while the area given in the report for the previous year included only the former category of lands. On the present estimated population of 4,400,000, the above area

would make the present holding of land about 54 cents per head, while the average extent of arable land per head of population in the State was in 1921 approximately 74 cents. Partition of family property as a result of recent social legislation is resulting in the uneconomic fragmentation of holdings. The total area of land under paddy cultivation was about 673,178 acres; that assigned for tea was 195,379 acres of which 114,205 acres remained uncultivated; the area under rubber was about 59,210 acres and that under coconut 522,670 acres. The total area of *poramboke* or Sirkar lands is 642,970 acres.

10. It was stated in the report for the previous year that until 1102 the practice had been to credit the sale proceeds of Government land as ordinary land revenue and that this practice was superseded with effect from 1102 by the system of exhibiting in the budget such realisations which are more or less in the nature of a capital receipt, as "capital account receipts." The total receipts under this head during the past three years were as follows:—

|      | Rs.      |
|------|----------|
| 1101 | 5,28,232 |
| 1102 | 6,01,254 |
| 1103 | 5,85,780 |

It has been pointed out in paragraph 8 *supra* that there was a decrease in the area assigned for cultivation. This circumstance explains the fall in receipts under this head compared with the realisation in the previous year.

11. The total demand under current revenue and arrears for the year was Rs. 43,36,420 against Rs. 44,71,718 in 1102.

The total collections amounted to Rs. 42,02,833 against Rs. 42,68,548 in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 44,826 was allowed by way of remissions, leaving a balance of Rs. 88,761 for collection at

*Demand,  
Collection and  
Balance.*

the end of the year against Rs. 1,44,995 in 1102. The percentage of collection rose from 96.34 to 97.95. The Trivandrum Division showed the highest percentage of collection as in the previous year followed by Quilon, Kottayam and Devicolum.

12. The number of demand notices issued decreased from 466,498 to 451,585 and the amount involved also fell from Rs. 19,55,020 to Rs. 18,26,359. Further,

*Coercive Action.* the number of cases in which moveables were distrained and immoveables attached fell from 9,802 for Rs. 2,08,807 to 8,552 cases for Rs. 2,00,031. Moveables were sold in 362 cases for Rs. 35,725 and immoveables in 1,543 cases for Rs. 39,580, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 706 cases for Rs. 6,421 and 1,742 cases for Rs. 43,063 respectively. The largest number of demand notices was issued from the Quilon Division. The largest number of cases in which moveables were distrained and immoveables attached was also in that division. The majority of cases of sale of moveables also took place in the same division, while the Trivandrum Division conducted the largest number of sales of immoveable property. Of the revenue collected 61 per cent was paid in on the due dates and the remaining 39 per cent was obtained by coercive action.

13. The total number of revenue cases of all description for disposal rose from 152,099 to 169,199. The number of cases disposed of also rose from 135,120 to

*Revenue Cases.* 151,601. The pendency of cases at the end of the year was 17,598 against 16,979 in 1102. The percentage of disposal rose from 89 to 90. Transfer of registry cases constituted as in the previous year the largest number of revenue cases, being 79 per cent of the total. Puduval and poramboke cases came next. The majority of the cases disposed of were uncontested and hence the satisfactory out-turn of work in the disposal of these cases.

14. The total area of *puduval* lands assigned during the year was 11,125 acres of which 3,297 acres were assigned by auction sale and the balance was registered upon application. The recurring and capital revenue secured by the assignment of the above area were Rs. 15,766 and

*Disposal of  
Puduval Lands.*

Rs. 5,03,708 respectively. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 11,557 acres, Rs. 16,881, and Rs. 5,06,245 respectively. The only taluk where a special staff was engaged in the disposal of pudaival cases was Neduvankad. The total cost on account of that staff during the year was Rs. 2,604. The special staff brought under registry 2,931 acres of land and the revenue secured amounted to Rs. 78,538 of which Rs. 3,246 was recurring and Rs. 75,292 was non-recurring. These figures fell short of the out-turn recorded in the report for the previous year as a result of a reduction in the special staff and of the circumstance that better lands have already been taken up and that the remaining lands are situated in inconvenient localities.

15. Lands were disposed of not only under the Pudaival Rules but also under the provisions of the  
*Disposal of Waste Land and Cardamom Land Rules.*  
*Waste Lands.* The total area assigned under these rules was only 93 acres of which 73 acres were registered for cardamom cultivation and the balance for tea.

16. The number of applications received for registry of lands from the landless classes on concessional terms was 1,623 of which 1,287 were disposed of during  
*Lands for Landless Classes.* the year. The disposals included 673 cases in which registry was sanctioned and 614 cases in which the applications were rejected. The main reasons for rejection were that the parties failed to pay the survey charges, that the areas applied for were not available, or that the applicants were not eligible for concessional registry. The area assigned was 548 acres against 511 acres in 1102. This comprised 364 acres from the area earmarked for assignment to the depressed classes and 184 acres outside that area. The total extent brought under registry until the close of the year out of 16,026 acres of the earmarked area was 2,079 acres, leaving a balance of 13,947 acres. The area so far assigned in favour of the depressed classes from outside the earmarked area was 1,980 acres. The total area thus assigned to the depressed classes was 4,059 acres of which 2,568 acres or 63 per cent

were registered in the names of Pulayas who, for the most part, continue to be the actual tillers of the soil. An extent of 5·33 acres was also registered on concessional terms to poor men other than members of the depressed classes under the Puduval Rules.

17. The concessions granted to ex-service men in regard to assignment of lands remained in force throughout the year. One

|                                  |                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Lands for Ex-service Men.</i> | of the concessions was that the lands were assigned to them free of <i>tharavila</i> or price. |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Lands for Ex-service Men.</i> | The area originally reserved for assignment to ex-service men was 4,320 acres. Out of this area, an extent of 2,470 acres in the Devicolum Division was excluded from the list at the instance of the Trivandrum War Service Men's Association and an additional area in the Tovala taluk was added to the list. The total area now reserved for the purpose is 2,056 acres. Of the 219 applications for disposal, 20 applications were disposed of by ordinary registry; 103 were rejected and 96 were left pending at the end of the year. The area of land brought under registry during the year was 142 acres. The 103 applications were rejected on the grounds that the lands applied for were not available for registry being market sites, temple <i>poramboles</i> etc., that the applicants failed to pay the dues, that they were not eligible for concessional grant under the rules or that the lands applied for were in the possession and occupation of others. |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

18. Towards the middle of the year, a Special Land Acquisition Officer was appointed for the acquisition of lands for the

|                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Special Land Acquisition Work.</i> | Chakkai-Tampanur Railway extension, the Trivandrum Water Works and the Trivandrum Electric Supply Scheme. During the year particulars for declaration under Section 6 of the Land Acquisition Regulation were submitted to Government for 134 acres. The number of cases filed was 398, covering an area of 93 acres and out of these, 106 cases covering an area of 24 acres were disposed of leaving a balance of 292 cases covering an area of 69 acres at the end of the year. A sum of Rs. 44,770 was paid as compensation and a further sum of Rs. 10,399 deposited in the treasury towards payment of compensation. |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

19. The total number of applications for agricultural loans increased from 454 to 677 of which 592 were disposed of. Loans were sanctioned in respect of 273 applications and refused in the remaining 319 cases. It is satisfactory to note that there has been an increase in the number of loans granted. The total amount of loans sanctioned during the year was Rs. 1,61,985 of which Rs. 1,44,485 was disbursed in all the four divisions together.

20. There were 158 public markets in the State at the beginning of the year. One market was closed and 10 markets were newly opened during the year. The total number of public markets at the end of the year was thus 167 of which 164 were leased out. The revenue realised from the lease was Rs. 79,742 against Rs. 73,116 in the previous year, and the expenditure incurred on account of maintenance, sanitation and new construction amounted to Rs. 24,898. This expenditure represented 31 per cent of the income from markets and marks a decided improvement over the figure for the previous year, *viz.*, 15 per cent. The number of private markets at the close of the year rose from 314 to 325 and the amount of license fees recovered therefrom also rose from Rs. 4,490 to Rs. 4,620. The sanitation of markets is supervised by the Sanitary Department, while the Land Revenue Department collects revenue and carries out improvements. The sanitary condition of the markets is reported to have been satisfactory.

21. The total extent of dry lands fit for conversion into wet lands within the area commanded by the Kodayar irrigation system was 26,399 acres composed of 24,251 acres of registered dry lands, 1,619 acres of tank beds and 529 acres of other *poramboke*. The area converted out of this area during the year rose from 251 to 273 acres. The total area of conversion so far was 19,235 acres. There is thus a balance of 7,164 acres available for conversion made up of 7,060 acres of registered dry lands, 38 acres of tank beds and 66 acres of other *poramboke*.

22. The work of maintenance of land records was attended to in all the divisions except the Devicolam Division by the Land Records Maintenance Account.

*Maintenance of Land Records.*      ants and Revenue Supervisors under the control of the Dewan Peishkars and the Tahsildars. In the Devicolam Division,

the work was done by the normal pakuthi staff under the supervision of the Tahsildars. The survey of 8,888 acres of *poramboke*, 9,787 acres of *padual* sub-divisions, and 4,824 acres of *pothuvaramu* sub-divisions, besides the detection of 10,058 cases of encroachments, the repair of 16,533 stones and the renewal of 57,706 stones, was completed during the year. This is an appreciable improvement compared with the out-turn of work in the previous year. The number of theodolite stones re-fixed increased from 1,015 to 3,049. The work of inspection and verification by the Revenue Supervisors and the Tahsildars was also satisfactory.

23. All Tahsildars except the Kandukrishni Tahsildar, Ambalapuzha, have been trained in survey. All Proverthikars and Accountants except one have also completed their training in survey. The three *Survey Training of Revenue Officers.* Revenue Inspectors in the Devicolam Division have undergone training in chain survey but have not yet been trained in theodolite survey.

24. The dispute between the Government and the Kannan Devan Hills Produce Company regarding the rights of the company to the water flowing through the lands granted to the company, was finally settled during the year. According to the settlement, the free right of the company to use the *Water Rights in the Kannan Devan Hills Concession.* water for cultivation, irrigation, domestic and all other every day use was admitted, but the Government reserved to themselves the right to levy royalty on the water used by the company for purposes other than those specified above. It was also settled that the company be granted the full right and liberty to use the water for generating hydraulic or electric power on payment of a stipulated royalty.

25. The central board and 81 block boards functioned throughout the year. Twenty-five boards alone have begun to collect cess. The revised draft of the rules

*Irrigation Boards.* for the constitution and working of irrigation boards was passed by the central board and submitted to Government for sanction. The draft is engaging the attention of Government.

26. The number of minor irrigation works carried out during the year was 29 of which 14 were in the Trivandrum Division, 13 in the Quilon Division and 2 in the

*Minor Irrigation Works.* Kottayam Division. A sum of Rs. 90,786 was spent on account of these works.

27. Amongst the several measures introduced during the year in connection with the administration of the Land Revenue Department may be mentioned the following as the most important :—

(i) The system of granting tax receipts in books kept by the payors without any copy in the office of issue was ordered to be modified by the introduction of counterfoil receipt forms.

(ii) The rate of timber value payable by grantees for reserved trees standing on lands granted under the rules for coffee or tea cultivation was revised and fixed at Rs. 50 per acre for a period of three years.

#### Survey.

28. The Survey Department attended to the following items of work during the year :—

(i) Special and miscellaneous cadastral surveys;  
*Work of the surveys;*  
*Department.* (ii) Lithography of village and other maps;

(iii) The training of private candidates and Government servants; and

(iv) The checking of village sites.

29. The most important items of work done under this head are :—

- (i) Demarcation and survey of lands for tea and rubber cultivation and of *puducal* lands comprising *Cadastral Surveys* in all 14,067 acres ;
- (ii) Computation and mapping of 10,921 acres of tea, rubber, cardamom and *puducal* lands, 141 acres of reserved forest and 120 acres of grazing blocks ;
- (iii) Refixing the boundaries of certain rubber estates and of the proposed Aryanad Reserve comprising 996 acres ;
- (iv) Survey of the boundaries of reserved forests to a length of 27 miles and miscellaneous survey and refixing work to a length of 35 miles ;
- (v) Preparation and supply to the Forest Department of maps of certain reserved forests ; and
- (vi) Survey and verification of certain parts of the State boundary.

30. There were 2 schools for the training of candidates in chain and theodolite survey, one at Kottayam and the other in Trivandrum. The total number of candidates trained in these two schools was 190 *Survey Schools.* against 179 in 1102. Of these, 139 candidates passed the final examination while 51 failed. Government servants, 17 in number, were also trained during the year. The receipts on account of fees from these two schools rose from Rs. 2,052 to Rs. 2,607. Sanction was accorded towards the close of the year for the opening of a third survey school at Muvattupuzha so as to meet the growing demand of the northern taluks of the Kottayam Division.

31. The work was done with the available field staff wherever possible without prejudice to the other works of the department. The area for which records had to be checked and closed at the beginning of the *Survey of Village Sites.* year was 1,087 acres. Out of this area records in respect of only 54 acres were checked and closed.

32. Sixteen inch maps for 51 square miles and 4 inch maps for 125 square miles were printed during the year. The reprint of 2 inch maps of taluks for 111 square miles was also executed besides twenty-two miscellaneous maps and diagrams printed for various purposes.

*Lithography of  
Maps.*

33. The total receipts and expenditure of the Land Revenue Department during the past three years are shown in the following statement :—

*Finance.*

|                                                                                                     | 1101      | 1102      | 1103      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                                                                                                     | Rs.       | Rs.       | Rs.       |
| Receipts                                                                                            | 42,08,560 | 42,25,071 | 41,62,373 |
| Expenditure                                                                                         | 10,19,203 | 10,26,135 | 10,54,191 |
| (After deducting share<br>debitable to Taxes<br>on Income and Ad-<br>ministration of Jus-<br>tice.) |           |           |           |

The receipts which do not include the sale proceeds of Government lands fell by Rs. 62,698, while the expenditure rose by Rs. 28,056. The total demand under current revenue and arrears was as shown in paragraph 11 above, less than that for the previous year. This was mainly due to the circumstance that there was a fall in the demand under arrears. The total receipts during the previous year therefore exceeded those for the year under report as a result of the larger demand and collection under arrears. The incidence of land revenue taxation was Re. 1.03 against Re. 1.05 in 1102. The percentage of expenditure to revenue rose from 21 to 25.

## Income Tax.

*Income Tax Commissioner and*

*Chief Revenue Authority. Mr. S. C. H. Robinson.*

34. As in the previous year, the existing land revenue agency was utilised for income tax work and there were 41 Collectors of Income Tax consisting of the three Dewan *Administration.* Peishkars, the Commissioner, Devicolam, the 7 Division Assistants and the 30 Tahsildars. The Dewan Peishkars, the Commissioner, Devicolam, and the Division Assistants exercised also the powers of a Commissioner of Income Tax under the Regulation.

35. The total number of assessees rose from 2,282 to 2,521. Of these, 2,422 were individuals against 2,194 in 1102; 97 companies against 86; and 2 firms as in the *Assessment* previous year. These include the assessee *Proceedings.* who resided within the limits of the several municipalities in the State. The total number of assessee within such limits was 1,292 or 51 per cent of the number of assessee in the State. The total collections from municipal towns represented a little more than 50 per cent of the total collections for the State. The largest amount was collected from Alleppey, viz., Rs. 97,917, followed by Quilon, Kottayam and Trivandrum.

36. The total demand under current and arrears rose from Rs. 7,50,273 to Rs. 7,81,922. The total collections also rose from Rs. 6,02,512 to Rs. 6,75,829. This *Demand, Col-* included an excess collection of Rs. 193. *lection and* A sum of Rs. 51,772 was allowed by way *Balance.* of remission and the balance left for collection was Rs. 54,514 against Rs. 42,212. The percentage of collection rose from 80 to 86. The heaviest balance was in the Quilon Division. The average incidence of this taxation per head of population rose from Chs. 4 cash 3 (2 annas, 4 pies) to Chs. 5 cash 2 (2 annas, 10 pies) during the year.

37. The number of appeals and revision petitions for disposal during the year was 355 of which 336 cases were disposed of leaving a balance of 19 cases.

*Appeals and Revision Petitions.* The result of the disposal was that 147 cases were successful and the remaining 189 were unsuccessful.

38. The receipts and expenditure under income tax during the past three years were as follows :—

*Receipts and Expenditure.*

|                 | 1101     | 1102     | 1103     |
|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|
|                 | Rs.      | Rs.      | Rs.      |
| Receipts ...    | 5,10,500 | 5,39,579 | 6,40,319 |
| Expenditure ... | 19,495   | 19,575   | 20,705   |
| Net Income ...  | 4,91,005 | 5,20,004 | 6,19,614 |

The above figures represent the net receipts after deducting refunds while the figures given in paragraph 36 are the gross collections without deducting refunds. The receipts during the year increased by Rs. 1,00,740; the net income by Rs. 99,610; and the expenditure by Rs. 1,130. The expenditure was but 3 per cent of the receipts. The receipts as well as the net income showed progressive increase during the past triennium.

#### Salt Revenue.

*Commissioner.* Mr. A. J. Van Ross (Till 14-3-1103).  
Mr. P. Gomathinayagam Pillai, B. A.  
(From 17-3-1103).

39. Mr. A. J. Van Ross retired from service during the year and Mr. P. Gomathinayagam Pillai succeeded him as the Excise Commissioner.

*Personnel.*

40. The salt factories in the State constitute one of the eleven Excise Divisions in charge of an Assistant Excise Commissioner who is under the control of the Excise Commissioner.

41. The salt consumed in the State is partly manufactured at the Government factories and partly imported from Bombay and Tinnevely. The manufacture of salt in the factories is entrusted to licensees.

*System.* In the case of the old factories the licensees used to be paid the price of the salt manufactured by them at  $12\frac{1}{2}$  chuckrams (7 as.) per maund on the *Kudivaram* or licensees' share of the salt which is 40 per cent of the total quantity manufactured. The remaining 60 per cent of the salt was taken by the Government as its *Meloaram* (duty) without payment. But as a result of the passing of a set of new rules under the Salt Regulation, III of 1088, the system of weighment of salt before storage was enforced. To cover the extra charges involved, the *kudivila* too was raised from  $4\frac{1}{2}$  chuckrams to 5 chuckrams ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  as. to  $2\frac{3}{4}$  as.) per maund in respect of the licensees of the monopoly factories at Thamarakulam, Rajakamangalam and Colachel on the whole quantity of salt manufactured in those factories. In the new factories, the licensees are paid at rates varying from  $2\frac{1}{2}$  annas to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  annas per maund on all the salt manufactured. Per contra, the licensees themselves construct and maintain the necessary works in the new factories, whereas the Government does this in the old factories. Salt for consumption was sold by Government agencies in bankshalls, depots and factories, except in the High Range and at the Alleppey depot. On the High Range the consumers themselves were permitted to import the salt required by them from the adjoining British districts on payment of duty at the Chowkeys. As this salt had already paid duty in British India, the salt sold in the High Range was laden with double duty and the price was naturally high. To remove this disability and to enable the consumers in the distant uplands of Devicolum to get cheap salt, a contractor was engaged to undertake the supply and sale of salt obtained free of duty from the Tuticorin factories. The contractor commenced sales from the 1st Thulam 1102 from

which date the import of salt by private individuals was prohibited. In the Alleppey depot, the supply and sale of Tinnevely salt continued with the special contractor engaged for the purpose till the 18th Vrischigam 1102 when his stock of salt was exhausted and from this date the sale of salt was conducted by Government.

42. Home salt is salt manufactured in the local factories or *alloms*. The number of factories for the manufacture of salt in

the State is 13 and they are situated in  
*Home Salt.* Rajakamangalam, Thamaracolum, Colachel  
and Variyur—all in South Travancore.

The total extent of the pans available for manufacture in all the factories was 471·26 acres against 471·62 acres in 1102. The decrease of 36 cents was due to the conversion of that area into a brine well in one of the *alloms*. Of the total area of 471·26 acres, 135·37 acres of cultivable area were not worked by the lessees during the year mainly owing to the insufficiency of good brine. The total quantity of salt manufactured in all the factories rose from 668,991 maunds to 922,056 maunds. Including excesses credited from heaps sold out, the total out-turn during the year was 987,515 maunds against 678,380 maunds in 1102. The average yield per acre thus rose from 1,934 maunds in 1102 to 2,993 maunds in 1103. The out-turn was the largest on record and was due to the favourable weather conditions which prevailed during the year for purposes of salt manufacture. The problem which continues to confront the licensees and the department is the supply of a sufficient quantity of brine. This accounts for the variations in the out-turn in the several factories. A few factories depended entirely on pit brine for irrigating the pans. The question of improving the brine supply has already engaged the attention of Government and proposals to stimulate the industry are awaited from the Chief Engineer and the Excise Commissioner. The quantity of home salt in stock in factories, in depots and bankshalls at the beginning of the year was 671,756 maunds. Including the receipts of the year under manufacture and excess, the total quantity available for consumption was 1,659,933 maunds. Out of this quantity, 593,757 maunds were sold by Government; value for 8,156 maunds in deficiency was realised; 223,794 maunds

which included 207,557 maunds washed off during the floods of 1101 M. E. were written off the accounts and a balance of 834,226 maunds was left at the end of the year.

43. Foreign salt is salt imported from outside the State. Salt is generally imported from Bombay and Tinnevely. The

*Foreign Salt.* quantity of foreign salt imported into the State during the year was 628,956 maunds made up of 323,109 maunds of Bombay salt and 305,847 maunds of Tinnevely salt. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 553,133 maunds of salt made up of 230,539 maunds of Bombay salt and 322,594 maunds of Tinnevely salt. The total quantity of stock of foreign salt available during the year was made up of 449,997 maunds of Bombay salt and 400,441 maunds of Tinnevely salt. The quantity sold was 323,740 maunds of Bombay salt and 249,983 maunds of Tinnevely salt against 295,158 maunds and 429,209 maunds respectively in 1102. The quantity which remained in stock at the end of the year, excluding quantities written off the accounts, was 126,202 maunds of Bombay salt and 150,453 maunds of Tinnevely salt.

44. The total quantity of salt, home as well as foreign, consumed in the State during the year was 1,181,124 maunds or an increase of 52,391 maunds over that

*Salt Consumption.* for the previous year. The increase was due to the good catches of fish and the consequent issue of more salt for curing. The average consumption per head of population rose from 23 lbs. to 24 lbs. Of the total quantity of salt consumed in the State, a little over half represented home salt and the balance foreign salt, while the percentages of home and foreign salt consumed during the previous year were 36 and 64 respectively. The improved percentage during the year under report was due to the increased output in the local factories, which was more than four-fifths of the total quantity consumed in the State.

45. The issue price of the several kinds of salt in the salt factories, salt depots and salt bankshalls

*Selling Price of Salt.* remained the same as at the close of the previous year except in the following cases :—

(1) A small quantity of home salt in the Trivandrum depot was sold at Bh. Rs. 2 per maund.

(2) The price of home salt in the Trivandrum depot was fixed at Bh. Re. 1-as. 15 per maund with effect from 22nd Kumbhom 1103.

(3) The price of home salt in the Alleppey depot was fixed at Bh. Rs. 2-as. 3 per maund with effect from 26th Makarom 1103.

(4) A small quantity of Tinnevely salt in Shencotta was sold at Bh. Rs. 2-as. 2 per maund at the depot and at Bh. Rs. 2-as. 2-pies 6 at the bankshall of the Shencotta taluk.

46. The receipts and expenditure under salt during the past three years are shown in the subjoined

*Receipts and statement :—*

*Expenditure.*

|                 | 1101      | 1102      | 1103      |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                 | Rs.       | Rs.       | Rs.       |
| Receipts ...    | 16,31,371 | 16,88,735 | 19,17,092 |
| Expenditure ... | 68,093    | 1,02,525  | 1,74,808  |

The receipts increased by Rs. 2,28,357 and the expenditure also by Rs. 72,283. The net revenue thus rose from Rs. 15,86,210 to Rs. 17,42,284 or by Rs. 1,56,074. This is due to larger consumption of salt during the year particularly in the fish curing yards the quantity of salt issued to which rose from 5,200 maunds to 8,220 maunds. The incidence of salt tax rose from 6·7 annas to 7·6 annas per head of population.



erroneous idea that the Government create and foster an unwholesome demand which would cease automatically if the State were ready to forego the excise revenue. When it is recognised that sources of illicit supply are easily accessible in the State and that liquor can be had from almost any palm tree with no more skill than is required to make an incision and with no more apparatus than a knife and a toddy-pot, it will be conceded that Government intervention only operates to regulate both the quality and the quantity of the liquor consumed, the former by the prescription of certain standards of strength and the latter by the levy of still-head fees which the consumer automatically pays.

50. The following administrative measures were carried out during the year :—

*General.*

(1) The maximum limit of possession by any person of intoxicating drugs containing opium was raised to 3 tolas.

(2) The issue price of opium was enhanced from Bh. Rs. 76-8-0 to Bh. Rs. 81-8-0 with effect from 19th Meenom 1103.

(3) The production of the Travancore import permit before the authority in British India competent to issue export permits was rendered obligatory.

51. The biennial contracts for the vend of arrack and toddy entered into in the previous year continued during the year under report without any change.

52. The total number of toddy shops, jaggery-arrack shops and toddy-arrack shops working during the year was the same as at the end of the previous year, viz., 1,832. This gave one shop to every 12·12 square miles and to 2,187 inhabitants of the State.

53. The supply rates of jaggery and toddy-arrack continued to be the same as in the previous year, viz., Bh. Rs. 2-5-6 and Bh. Rs. 6-6-0 per proof gallon respectively. The strength of arrack issued from distilleries, ware-houses and depots also continued as 25° U. P. and 35° U. P. The total number of arrack

shops, both jaggery and toddy, excluding the shops in the Devicolam Division, was 573 against 574 in 1102, *i. e.*, one shop to every 12.14 square miles and to 6,933 inhabitants against 12.12 square miles and 6,922 inhabitants in the previous year. The largest number of arrack shops was in the Kunnathnad taluk, *viz.*, 46, followed by Neyyattinkara (35), Trivandrum, Thiruvella and Parur (29), Shertallai (28), Kalkulam and Kottayam (27), Quilon and Muvattupuzha (26) and Meenachil (25). Consumption of arrack increased by 12,410 proof gallons as compared with 1102, the quantity consumed being 129,594 proof gallons of jaggery-arrack and 795 proof gallons of coconut toddy arrack against 117,266 proof gallons of jaggery-arrack and 714 proof gallons of coconut toddy arrack in 1102. The consumption per head of population rose from 1.42 drams to 1.57 drams during the year under report. This ratio is calculated on the basis of the census of 1921 and it will be much less if calculated on the basis of the real increase in population since the last census. The average incidence of vend rent per proof gallon for the whole State was Rs. 3-10-15 against Rs. 3-20-12 in 1102. The incidence was highest in the Peermade taluk, *viz.*, Rs. 8-24-6 and lowest in the Pathanamthitta taluk *viz.*, Re. 1-2-2. The total collections under current rent, excise duty and miscellaneous rose from Rs. 10,09,385 to Rs. 10,46,005. The increase was due to the fact that a few shopkeepers were installed in the business of their shops only during the course of the previous year so that the demand for 1102 was proportionately less, while in the year under report there was full demand for the whole year. Further, a few shops which were re-sold fetched increased rentals. While the total revenue collected per gallon of proof strength fell from Rs. 8-9-0 to Rs. 7-27-3 the incidence of taxation on country spirit per head of population rose from Chs. 6-cash 14 (As. 3-10) to Chs. 7-cash 6 (As. 4-2). In the arrack rent farm of Devicolam, there were 7 shops as in the previous year or one shop to every 95.2 square miles and 4,699 inhabitants with a total rental of Rs. 40,000, the incidence of rent per head of population being Bh. Re. 1 as. 3 p. 1.

54. There were 1,259 toddy shops during the year, *i. e.*, one less than the number for the previous year. This gave one shop to every 3,155 inhabitants and 5.53

*Toddy.*

square miles against 3,153 persons and 5.52 square miles in 1102. The amount collected under current rentals fell from Rs. 11,89,338 to Rs. 11,79,303 or by Rs. 10,035. It may be noted that a small measure of toddy forms part of the regular diet of the labouring classes. The largest number of toddy shops was in the Shertallai taluk, *viz.*, 110, followed by Kunnatnad (106), Meenachil (84), Kottayam (83), Vaikom and Parur (77), Ambalapuzha (74) and Thiruvella (70).

55. The rates of tree tax remained the same as in the previous year. The rates fixed for the whole State except the

Devicolum taluk and the pakuthies of the Kunnatnad and Parur taluks which border on Cochin territory, were as follows:—

|                              | Old rate. |     |     |             | New rate. |     |     |             |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----|-----|-------------|-----------|-----|-----|-------------|
|                              | Rs.       | as. | ps. |             | Rs.       | as. | ps. |             |
| Cocoanut ...                 | 6         | 0   | 0   | (per annum) | 6         | 12  | 0   | (per annum) |
| Palmyra ...                  | 3         | 8   | 0   | Do.         | 3         | 12  | 0   | Do.         |
| Sago palm or Choondapana ... | 10        | 0   | 0   | Do.         | 12        | 0   | 0   | Do.         |

The rates in force in the pakuthies of the Kunnatnad and Parur taluks were the following:—

|                              | Old rate. |     |     |             | New rate. |     |     |             |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----|-----|-------------|-----------|-----|-----|-------------|
|                              | Rs.       | as. | ps. |             | Rs.       | as. | ps. |             |
| Cocoanut ...                 | 4         | 0   | 0   | (per annum) | 5         | 0   | 0   | (per annum) |
| Palmyra ...                  | 3         | 0   | 0   | Do.         | 3         | 0   | 0   | Do.         |
| Sago palm or Choondapana ... | 7         | 0   | 0   | Do.         | 10        | 0   | 0   | Do.         |

127,940  
792  
150680  
  
117266  
719  
117985

These lower rates were adopted so as to bring them into line with those prevailing in the neighbouring State of Cochin and thus minimise the incentive to the smuggling of toddy from Cochin into Travancore. The number of trees licensed during the past three years is given below:—

| Name of tree. | Number licensed in |        |        |
|---------------|--------------------|--------|--------|
|               | 1101               | 1102   | 1103   |
| Cocoanut      | 84,923             | 91,765 | 89,228 |
| Palmyra       | 12,607             | 12,900 | 13,473 |
| Choondapana   | 18,099             | 19,754 | 20,243 |

There was a decrease of 2,537 cocoanut trees and an increase of 573 palmyra and 489 choondapana trees licensed during the year. Palmyra palms were tapped in five taluks of the Trivandrum Division and in the Shencotta taluk of the Quilon Division, and toddy was drawn from sago palms in seven taluks of the Quilon Division and in eight taluks of the Kottayam Division. The largest number of cocoanut palms, *viz.*, 12,924, was tapped in the Sertiallai taluk, followed by Ambalapuzha, Kottayam and Parur. The taluk of Agastiswaram was first in regard to the number of palmyra trees tapped for fermented toddy, *viz.*, 4,068. The taluks of Kalkulam, Tovala and Shencotta came next in order. The highest number of choondapanas *viz.*, 5,300, was marked in Meenachil, followed by Muvattupuzha and Kunnatnad. The total amount of tree tax collected fell from Rs. 4,54,127 in 1102 to Rs. 4,50,614 in 1103.

56. The quantity of foreign liquor including all varieties imported into the State during the year rose from 28,357 gallons to 34,345 gallons or by 5,988 gallons.

*Foreign Liquor.* Twenty-nine licenses for the wholesale and 9 licenses for the retail vend of foreign liquor were issued against 27 and 9 respectively in 1102. The total collections under license fee on foreign liquors amounted to

Rs. 15,100, *i. e.*, an increase of Rs. 730 over the collections of the previous year.

57. The total demand for the year, including arrears, was Rs. 21,60,586 of which Rs. 21,15,055 was collected and Rs. 20,993 was written off, leaving a balance of Rs. 24,538 pending collection at the end of the year. The percentage of collection under current demand was 99·99 and under arrears 14 against 99·9 and 7·9 respectively in the previous year.

58. The independent shop system in regard to the sale of opium and ganja continued to be in force throughout the State.

The supply to the vend contractors was made by the department; the opium and ganja required being purchased from the Madras Stores and issued from the Central Stores at Trivandrum.

Fresh contracts for the sale of opium and ganja in independent shops were entered into for the year under report. The issue price of ganja continued to be Bh. Rs. 27½ per seer, while that of opium was raised from Bh. Rs. 76½ to Bh. Rs. 81½ per seer with effect from 19th Meenom 1103.

59. Opium and ganja were sold in 129 shops as in the previous year. The ratio of one shop to 59·11 square miles and 31,055 inhabitants was thus maintained.

The quantity of opium issued for sale however fell from 4,444 seers to 4,395 seers, while that of ganja increased from 5,112 seers to 5,521 seers.

The decrease under the former was due to the strict control exercised by the department over the issues to the shops and the increase under the latter was due to the good quality of the stuff purchased from the Madras store house. The average consumption per head of population was ·088 tola of opium and ·110 tola of ganja against ·088 tola of opium and ·102 tola of ganja in 1102. The largest quantity of opium, *viz.*, 643 seers, was consumed in the Kottayam taluk, followed by Meenachil, Changanachery and Kunnathnad. The smallest quantity, *viz.*, 6 seers, was consumed in the Neduvankad taluk. The largest quantity of ganja, *viz.*, 397

seers was consumed in the taluk of Quilon, followed by Neduvankad, Ambalapuzha and Karunagipalli. Peermade consumed the smallest quantity of ganja, viz., 4 seers. The average retail selling prices per tola of opium and ganja were Bh. Re. 1-12-0 and as. 10 p. 1 respectively. A sum of Rs. 3,31,821 was received during the year from the British Government on account of the rebate of duty on opium and ganja. This was Rs. 21,902 more than the amount realised for the previous year. Including this rebate, the total collection under opium and ganja amounted to Rs. 5,45,970 against Rs. 4,85,284 or an increase of Rs. 60,686. The percentage of collection to demand was cent per cent. The total receipts under Abkari, including opium and ganja, rose from Rs. 31,97,978 in 1102 to Rs. 33,00,060 in 1103. The incidence per head of population also rose from as. 12-pa. 5 to as. 12-pa. 11.

60. The tobacco required for consumption in the State is imported by merchants on their own account by land, sea or rail and bonded in the Sirkar warehouses *Tobacco—System* where it is allowed to remain in the joint of *Supply and Sale*. custody of the Government and the merchants. The merchants remove the tobacco from the warehouses after paying the import duty. The varieties of tobacco imported are Tinnevely, Jaffna and Coimbatore. The system of sale of tobacco under licenses remained in force in taluks of Tovala and Agastiswaram excepting the Neendacara pakuthi of the latter taluk, in the taluk of Shencotta, the Alleppey pakuthi of the Ambalapuzha taluk and in all the taluks of the Devicolum and Kottayam Divisions.

61. The consumption of duty-paid tobacco rose from 19,495 candies in 1102 to 21,527 candies in 1103. The increase of 2,032 candies was partly due to the issue of tobacco in connection with the Onam festivals of the years 1103 and 1104 in the year under report itself and partly to the vigilant preventive work at the frontiers. Excluding a third of the population as children and non-users of tobacco, the average consumption per head of population was 484 lbs. against

438 lbs. in 1102. The total collections under tobacco amounted to Rs. 22,66,108 or an increase of Rs. 2,26,696 over the receipts in the previous year. Sixty-five per cent of the collections was contributed by Coimbatore tobacco, while the percentages of collection from Jaffna and Tinnevely tobacco were 19 and 10 respectively.

62. The number of cases investigated by the department under the abkari, opium, tobacco and salt laws was 2,530 against 2,955 in 1102. Of these, 2,251

*Excise Offences.* cases were charged before the Magistracy,

219 cases were either referred for orders or struck off the register and 60 cases were pending investigation at the end of the year. The total number of cases tried by the Magistracy, including the cases pending trial at the close of the year, was 2,295 of which 2,203 ended in conviction, 47 in acquittal and 45 were pending trial at the end of the year. The percentages of conviction and acquittal were respectively 97.91 and 2.09 against 97.74 and 2.26 in 1102. The number of cases detected by the department fell from 2,901 to 2,449. The decrease was under abkari and opium, although there was an increase in the work of detection under tobacco and salt. The fall was attributable to better preventive work turned out on the part of the officers of the department and the consequent suppression of malpractices. Amongst the cases reported under the abkari law, 1,396 related to illicit manufacture of toddy, 208 to possession of illicit liquor, 160 to possession of unlicensed liquor and 103 to illicit transport. Under tobacco law, there were 140 cases of smuggling, 37 of possession of illicit tobacco and 22 of illicit sale. The quantity of smuggled tobacco seized by the officers of the department amounted to 3,513 lbs. A sum of Rs. 24,392 was recovered under the excise laws in the several Magistrates' Courts during the year. These figures amply demonstrate the importance of vigilant detection work and clearly indicate the increasing recognition by the department of the paramount need for efficient preventive work in furtherance of the abkari policy of Government.

251541  
21902  
9971

63. There were during the year 399 fines, 9 degradations, 50 suspensions, 5 dismissals, and 14 forfeitures of appointments against 451 fines, 13 degradations, 74 suspensions, one dismissal and 4 forfeitures of appointments in 1102. Discipline in the department was well maintained throughout the year.

64. The following statement gives the receipts and expenditure under the head of Excise (Abkari, Opium, Ganja and Tobacco) during the past three years :—

|                 | 1101      | 1102      | 1103      |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                 | Rs.       | Rs.       | Rs.       |
| Receipts ...    | 48,90,593 | 52,37,100 | 55,64,208 |
| Expenditure ... | 3,84,800  | 4,01,456  | 4,05,009  |

The receipts increased by Rs. 3,27,108 and the expenditure by Rs. 3,553. The net revenue rose from Rs. 48,35,644 to Rs. 51,59,199 or by Rs. 3,23,555. The incidence of the total excise revenue per head of the population was Re. 1.4, which is almost equivalent to the incidence in the Madras Presidency.

#### Customs Revenue.

65. Under the Interportal Trade Convention entered into with the British Government in 1865, Travancore does not levy duty on imported goods, with certain exceptions, produced or manufactured in British India or in the Cochin State, or on other goods which have already paid import duty in Cochin or in British India. But Travancore levies duty on articles imported by sea direct from countries outside India. The

average amount of customs collected at the time of the Interportal Convention was Bh. Rs. 53,218 of which Bh. Rs. 13,218 represented the amount of import duty then realised at the Travancore seaports, and the British Government guaranteed the State a total import revenue to this extent by undertaking to make good any deficit up to Bh. Rs. 40,000 a year. In other words, when the Travancore Sea Customs collections (on imports from foreign countries excluding goods imported by sea for the use of the Travancore Government) are less than Bh. Rs. 13,218, the British Government pay to Travancore Bh. Rs. 40,000, but if in any year the collections exceed Bh. Rs. 13,218, the excess amount realised is deducted from the sum of Bh. Rs. 40,000 and the balance alone is payable to Travancore. No amount was payable during the year under report by the British Government under the Interportal Trade Convention. Tobacco, salt, opium and spirits are excluded from the convention. Foreign liquors which have paid duty at British or Cochin ports are also exempted from duty. The assigned values and rates of duty adopted by Travancore in regard to imports from foreign countries follow the British Indian Tariff.

66. In regard to exports the State is free to levy duties on any commodity. Under the Interportal Trade Convention,

however, the rate of duty on tariff valuation

*Export Duty.* shall not exceed Rs. 5 per cent on all ordinary exports, Rs. 10 per cent on timber and Rs. 15 a candy on pepper and betelnut. Of articles on which export duty is now levied the most important are copra, coir, cocoanut oil and coconuts, tea, pepper, dry-ginger, jaggery, salt-fish, arecanut and tamarind. The revenue is collected at land and sea customs houses of which there were 68 at the end of the year under report.

67. No tariff changes were introduced during the year. Amongst the important changes effected during the previous three years may, however, be mentioned

*Tariff Changes.* the following :—

(1) 600 cocoanut husks (green or soaked) were fixed as equivalent to one hundred-weight for purposes of assessment of duty.

(2) The tariff value of turmeric was raised to Bh. Rs. 15 per cwt.

(3) An export duty was imposed on desiccated cocoanut at 5 per cent on a tariff value of Bh. Rs. 14 per cwt.

(4) The duty on pepper was raised to Bh. Rs. 10 per candy of 500 lbs.

(5) The tariff value of molasses was raised to Bh. Rs. 10 per cwt.

(6) The tariff value of copra was reduced to Bh. Rs. 18 per cwt, and of cocoanuts to Bh. Rs. 50-10 per 1,000.

(7) The value of arecanuts without husk was raised to Bh. Rs. 200 per candy and of prawns to Bh. Rs. 37-8 per cwt.

(8) Duty was imposed on all tea exported from Travancore at the rate of Bh. Re. 1-8 per hundred pounds.

(9) The tariff value of cocoanut oil was reduced to Bh. Rs. 15 per cwt.

The necessity for the changes introduced was explained at the time in the respective reports.

68. The total receipts under imports rose from Rs. 3,36,483 to Rs. 4,38,335, while the export duty realised during the year fell from Rs. 29,04,422 to Rs. 27,30,452.

*Receipts under Imports and Ex-ports.* The former increased by Rs. 1,01,852 and the latter decreased by Rs. 1,73,970.

The bulk of the import duty, i. e., 54 per cent, was as usual realised from tobacco, both raw and manufactured, a commodity outside the scope of the Interportal Trade Convention. The major portion of the export duty was contributed as in the previous year by the produce of the cocoanut tree, viz., copra, cocoanuts, coir, cables, coir-fibre, cocoanut husk, cocoanut oil and punac. These articles yielded 52 per cent of the total revenue from exports. There was an increase in duty realised from coir-fibre, cocoanut husk, and punac, while there was a fall under copra, cocoanuts, coir, cables and cocoanut oil. The fall under copra, cocoanuts and cocoanut oil was due to the reduction in tariff values of the articles which was introduced in 1102 and which

had full effect in the year under report. The decrease under coir was chiefly due to the shortage of demand for the article in the Indian markets. Exports increased under arecanut without husk, arecanut in husk, laurel oil, lemon grass oil, hides, prawns, other fish and tea. Decreases occurred under jaggery, dry-ginger, pepper, tamarind, molasses and charcoal. The duty on tea amounted to Rs. 4,85,381 against Rs. 3,78,255 in 1102.

69. The subjoined statement gives the receipts and expenditure under customs during the past three years :—

|             | 1101      | 1102      | 1103      |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|             | Rs.       | Rs.       | Rs.       |
| Receipts    | 28,71,437 | 30,21,504 | 31,55,578 |
| Expenditure | 75,420    | 79,223    | 78,706    |

The receipts increased by Rs. 1,34,074 while the expenditure fell by Rs. 517. The net income from customs rose from Rs. 29,42,281 to Rs. 30,76,872.

#### Forest Department.

Conservator. *Mr. R. Dhanañjoti Pillai, B. A.*

*Honors. (Oxon).*

70. Travancore has been a country of forests from the earliest times. In the early part of the last century, teak was the only timber monopoly of the State.

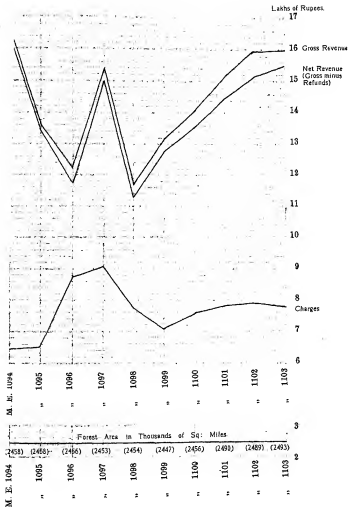
*Historical Survey.* People were free to fell and remove every other kind of timber except that it was subject to a slight river duty when the timber was conveyed by water. The first Conservator was appointed more than a century ago with an establishment costing

a little over Rs. 1,000. The Conservator's function was to arrange for teak and cardamoms being collected and delivered at Alleppey. From this small beginning the department steadily grew in size and strength with increased and multifarious functions. In 1844, blackwood and anjili were declared monopolies, and these were followed by wax and cardamoms, ebony and sandalwood. Cardamoms ceased to be a monopoly in 1071 (1896). Artificial regeneration of teak commenced in 1866. In 1063 (1888) the first Forest Regulation for the protection and management of the State forests was promulgated. The first forest reserve of 300 square miles was notified in the next year. After the lapse of more than a quarter of a century, the area of the State forests has reached 2,395 square miles on which no further increase is practicable. The 'royal' trees now are teak, blackwood, ebony and sandalwood. The receipts of the Forest Department in 1038 (1862-63) amounted to over Rs. 1½ lakhs. After more than half a century of careful control and management, the income from the department has reached Rs. 15.45 lakhs. The expenditure on the department too has proportionately increased from Rs. 79,673 in 1059 (1883-84) to Rs. 7.85 lakhs in 1103 (1927-28). Artificial regeneration of valuable timber has become a settled policy of the department. The receipts from minor forest produce has increased from Rs. 2,500 in 1069 (1893-94) to Rs. 54,335 and this is due to the effective management of the State forests.

71. The policy of the Government has been to refrain from further reservation of extensive areas. Reservation has been so far made with a view to obtain the highest

*Forest Policy.* possible yield from that part of a forest block which is commercially valuable; to protect the forest growth in mountainous tracts for the prevention of erosion and landslips; to regulate the flow of water in streams originating from the hills; and to preserve intact the sources of supply of small timber and fuel to the agriculturist and fodder for cattle. It is further the policy to develop the utilisation of soft woods. On the conservancy side special efforts are devoted to the scientific plantation of valuable timbers to replace felling in natural forests. The Government are disafforesting as much suitable land as practicable for paddy cultivation.

# **FOREST REVENUE & CHARGES & FOREST AREA.**



72. The area of reserved forests increased from 2,391 square miles 480 acres to 2,395 square miles 298 acres. There was thus an accession of area to the extent of 3 *Reserved Forests.* square miles and 458 acres. This was the result of a fresh demarcation of some of the reserves in respect of which revised notifications under Section 18 of the Forest Regulation were issued during the year.

73. The area of reserved lands increased from 93 square miles 633 acres to 94 square miles 138 *Reserved Lands.* acres or by 145 acres. The increase was due to the constitution of the old Kypricad teak plantation under Section 4 of the Forest Regulation.

74. The area of these reserves decreased from 4 square miles 129 acres to 3 square miles 495 acres *Fuel and Fodder Reserves.* or by 274 acres. The decrease was the result of the cancellation of the Meykode grazing block.

75. The Special Forest Settlement Officer appointed in the previous year continued throughout the year under report. *Forest Settlement.* Twenty three proposed reserves were pending settlement at the close of 1102. Two more reserves were notified since and there were therefore 25 reserves for settlement. The settlement of 16 reserves was completed during the year leaving 9 pending settlement at the close of the year. The total number of claim cases for disposal was 189 of which 144 were disposed of by the Forest Settlement Officer.

76. Forest exploitation is regulated by working plans or working schemes to bring all important forests under systematic management, to ensure continuity of treatment and orderly and economic working on an organised basis as well as to ensure *Working Plans.* scientific forest regeneration looking forward several decades. No new working plan or scheme was taken up afresh and completed during the year as there was very little need for the preparation of such a plan or scheme for remote areas which can be

taken up for working only at later periods when a better demand for timber arises and better facilities for exploitation are available. Working plans or schemes were available at the close of the year for about 1,000 square miles, while data for the preparation of working schemes were being collected in respect of 54 square miles.

77. The natural reproduction of valuable species like Maruthu, Irul, Kambakam, Teak, Blackwood, Venga, Thembavu and

Sandal seedlings was satisfactory in the several forest divisions. In regard to artificial reproduction, an area of 825.77 acres

was planted with teak at a cost of Re. '9 per acre against 910.35 acres at a cost of Re. '66 per acre in 1102. The slight increase in the cost was due to the circumstance that a larger area in the Kottayam Division was planted departmentally than in the previous year, while the Taungya system\* of planting was adopted in all the other divisions. Teak defoliators appeared as usual and disappeared with the advent of the rains. Wild elephants damaged the young plantations in the Northern Division. The experiment which was started in the previous year of sowing seeds of *Theplesia Candida* to keep down the growth of noxious weeds and climbers has proved to be a success. Thinning operations were carried on in the Northern, Central and Shencotta Divisions. Other operations like creeper cutting, climber cutting, weeding reeds and other undergrowth, cutting back and coppicing deformed stems and maintaining cultural areas, were also carried out in the several divisions for the improvement of forest growth. Experiments in sowing seeds of sandal were carried out in the several divisions with varying

\* Under this system as soon as the tree growth is removed from the area, the land is leased out to contractors who clear and burn the area and sow paddy with the beginning of the monsoon. Teak plants are supplied to the contractor who plants them at his cost but under the control of the department in places already staked. After the paddy is harvested, the contractor raises a crop of grain or other cereals in the area and keeps the plantation completely wooded. Another paddy harvest is raised and the contractor delivers back the area fully wooded and with all the fallows replanted. The teak plants raised under this system show better growth while the Government save the cost of weeding. This system not only reduces the cost of plantations enormously but it also increases the cultivation of food crops in the country. The Taungya System of raising plantations especially through the instrumentality of co-operative societies has practically come to stay and is growing in popularity in all the divisions.

success. Mahogany trees, especially of the big leaved variety, were in a thriving condition. Should this satisfactory feature persist, mahogany may in course of years replace the fast disappearing blackwood. The planting of several species of exotics was carried out and the results are being watched.

78 The extraction of timber from the forests was entrusted as usual mostly to contract agencies. The usual methods for the transport of forest produce, viz., carts along

*Exploitation of* land routes and rafts along water-ways,  
*Timber.* were adopted for extraction of timber.

Elephants were employed for dragging timber from areas away from road sides or river banks. Buffalo carts were also used in certain cases. The quantity of timber extracted and removed from the forests during the year amounted to 1,140,889 cubic feet or 42,424 cubic feet more than the out-turn for the previous year. This quantity represents the largest out-turn during the past quinquennium. This was made up of 504,232 cubic feet of royalties and 636,657 cubic feet of junglewood. The corresponding quantities in the previous year were 517,874 cubic feet of royalties and 580,591 cubic feet of junglewood. There was a decrease in the output of royalties, while the out-turn under junglewood showed an increase. Including the stock at the commencement of the year, the quantity of timber available for disposal during the year was 1,753,861 cubic feet. Of this, 1,012,875 cubic feet were disposed of during the year, made up of 547,254 cubic feet of royalties and 465,621 cubic feet of junglewood. The balance in stock at the end of the year consisted of 279,301 cubic feet of royalties and 461,685 cubic feet of junglewood. Both the receipts and disposal of timber have been gradually increasing during the past quinquennium. The total receipts on account of the sale of 'royal' trees and junglewood rose from Rs. 13,77,099 to Rs. 13,98,519 or by Rs. 21,420. The 'royal' trees contributed 57 per cent of the above total receipts and the balance by junglewood. The yield of timber from areas of reserved forests managed by the department was less than 1 cubic foot per acre while the corresponding yield in the Madras Presidency was just under 2 cubic feet per acre.

279301  
461685  
740986

79. Next to timber, one of the important items of forest produce consists of firewood and charcoal. The receipts from this item during the year amounted to

*Minor Forest* Rs. 27,769. This was less than the receipts of the previous year by Rs. 18,225  
*Produce.* and the fall was mainly due to the circumstance that the demand for fuel from the Central Division was met from pudaival registries. In addition to coup sales, more than 3 lakhs of bamboos were sold and a sum of Rs. 21,886 was realised therefrom. Ivory was collected departmentally and sold at the Conservator's Office in public auction, fetching a sum of Rs. 3,790. The realisation from grazing permits and fodder was Rs. 22,043. The total receipts from minor produce amounted to Rs. 54,335.

80. There has been no dearth of elephants in the forests of the State and the results of the capturing operations were satisfactory. There were in the department 11  
*Elephants.* elephants (3 tuskers and 8 cows) at the beginning of the year. During the year 24 elephants (6 tuskers and 18 cows) were captured and a calf was born to one of the captives of the previous year. Three elephants (1 tusker and 2 cows) died; 15 (5 tuskers and 10 cows) were sold in auction; and a cow each was sold to the Museum and Public Gardens and the Palace Stables respectively. The number of elephants remaining with the department at the end of the year was thus 16 (3 tuskers and 13 cows). The revenue derived by the sale of elephants was Rs. 22,024. The average realisation per elephant fell from Rs. 2,095 to Rs. 1,295. This was due to the fact that most of the elephants sold were young cows.

81. The number of forest offences which required investigation by the department and disposal during the year was 1,408. Of these, 178 cases  
*Forest Protection.* were disposed of by the Magistracy and 866 by the department, leaving a balance of 364 cases at the end of the year. The majority of these offences, viz., 476 related, as in 1102, to illicit collection, possession or removal of timber or of minor forest produce.

Next came cases of damage to reserved trees. Of the 178 cases disposed of by the Magistracy, 139 ended in conviction, and of the cases disposed of departmentally, 815 were compounded and the rest withdrawn. The amount of compensation realised during the year rose from Rs. 11,717 to Rs. 13,554. Proper and effective measures were as usual taken to protect forests from devastating fires. The area thus protected was 2,128 square miles. Out of this area, 19 square miles was over-run by fire which swept over mainly grassy land without causing any serious damage to forest property. The insufficiency of rain and the consequent drought during the year were responsible for the circumstance that fire broke out over a larger area than in the previous year. The system of early burning was continued with satisfactory results. The area closed to grazing was only 236 square miles against 240 square miles in 1102. The revenue realised in grazing fees was Rs. 22,043 against Rs. 23,102 in 1102. But for the restrictions imposed by the Plague Rules as a result of the outbreak of plague in the adjacent British districts, the revenue under this head would have materially increased.

82. The Forest School at Koni was continued throughout Forest School. the year. A batch of 23 students was trained during the year.

83. The revenue and expenditure of the Forest Department during the past three years were as follows :—

|             |                               | 1101      | 1102      | 1103      |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|             |                               | Rs.       | Rs.       | Rs.       |
| Receipts    | ...                           | 14,49,639 | 15,18,660 | 15,45,447 |
| Expenditure | (Forest conservancy and works | 5,30,032  | 5,23,745  | 5,10,625  |
|             | (Establishment, etc.          | 2,55,527  | 2,67,764  | 2,74,585  |
| Total       | ...                           | 7,85,559  | 7,91,509  | 7,85,210  |



85. The following table shows the volume of stamp printing work done in the Stamp Manufactory during the past 3 years :—

| Description of Stamps.             | Number printed during |            |            |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------|------------|
|                                    | 1101                  | 1102       | 1103       |
| 1 General Stamp Papers             | 737,172               | 641,493    | 868,802    |
| 2 Hindi Stamp Papers               | 15,587                | 10,044     | 17,061     |
| 3 Foreign Bill Stamps              | 27,636                | 35,232     | 15,360     |
| 4 One Anna (1½ ch.) Receipt Stamps | 1,824,000             | ...        | 2,221,680  |
| 5 Private Documents (embossed)     | 93,758                | 99,962     | 36,667     |
| 6 Court Fee Stamp Papers           | 135,060               | 208,602    | 160,107    |
| 7 Court Fee Labels                 | 1,864,000             | 1,682,456  | 2,166,000  |
| 8 Copying Papers (ordinary)        | 992,000               | 1,284,028  | 1,366,019  |
| 9 Copying Papers (Service)         | 80,187                | 70,177     | ...        |
| 10 Anchal Stamps, Cards and Covers | 8,678,000             | 9,632,232  | 9,358,102  |
| 11 Service Anchal Stamps and Cards | 823,200               | 2,524,536  | 1,976,624  |
| Total                              | 15,270,600            | 16,188,762 | 18,186,422 |

86. The face value of stamps manufactured in the year rose from Rs. 21·01 lakhs to Rs. 34·19 lakhs. The issues from the Central Depot amounted to Rs. 32·87 lakhs. The closing balance in stock in the Central Stamp Depot and the Stamp Manufactory was Rs. 71·64 lakhs as against Rs. 69·99 lakhs at the close of the previous year.

87. From 1st January 1928, the Stamp Duty on cheques *Miscellaneous* and bills payable on demand was remitted.

88. The following tabular statement shows the receipts and *Receipts and* expenditure of the department during the *Expenditure.* past three years :—

|                                                                 | 1101      | 1102      | 1103      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                                                                 | Rs.       | Rs.       | Rs.       |
| Receipts. { Sale of General Stamps ...                          | 10,22,887 | 10,45,834 | 11,48,311 |
| { Do. of Court Fee Stamps (Judicial) ...                        | 17,10,785 | 17,06,167 | 17,64,345 |
| { Duty on impressing Documents ...                              | 59,059    | 30,818    | 44,962    |
| { Miscellaneous ...                                             | 7,062     | 8,140     | 7,758     |
| Deduct Refunds ...                                              | 1,04,632  | 97,918    | 1,03,885  |
| Net total ...                                                   | 26,95,161 | 26,93,041 | 28,61,491 |
| Expenditure ...                                                 | 1,08,293  | 1,11,629  | 1,13,199  |
| Deduct expenditure debit-<br>able to Anchal Depart-<br>ment ... | 23,294    | 23,760    | 25,387    |
| Total Expenditure ...                                           | 84,999    | 87,869    | 87,812    |

The revenue of the year exceeded that for the previous year by Rs. 1,74,417; Rs. 1,02,477 was under General Stamps, Rs. 58,178 under Court Fee Stamps and Rs. 14,144 under duty on impressing documents.

## CHAPTER V.

### JUSTICE AND CRIME.

|                                   |                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Chief Justice, High Court.</i> | <i>Mr. H. S. Chatfield, M. A.,<br/>Barrister-at-Law.</i>             |
| <i>Puisne Judge.</i>              | <i>Mr. K. G. Parameswara Menon,<br/>B. A., B. L. (On leave).</i>     |
| "                                 | <i>Mr. A. Venkittarama Aiyar, B. A.,<br/>B. L.</i>                   |
| "                                 | <i>Mr. V. S. Subramonia Aiyar, B. A.,<br/>B. L.</i>                  |
| "                                 | <i>Mr. Joseph Thaliath, M. A.,<br/>Barrister-at-Law. (Acting).</i>   |
| "                                 | <i>Mr. P. N. Bhoothalingam Aiyar,<br/>B. A., B. L. (Temporary).</i>  |
| "                                 | <i>Mr. Ch. K. Parameswaran Pillai,<br/>B. A., B. L. (Temporary).</i> |

The judicial administration of the State rests with the High Court, except in the matter of offences committed by European British subjects in regard to which there are special courts in the State established by *Judicial System.* law. Subject to this exception the High Court is the highest civil and criminal court in the land and the Court has the power of adjudication over suits of the highest value and criminal cases of the most serious nature, although their decisions in some important criminal and civil cases, such as capital and life sentences and decrees in suits of the value of Rs. 5,000 and above, are subject to confirmation by the Sovereign, application for which is transmitted through the Dewan. The High Court has no original jurisdiction. In appeals, however, questions of fact as well as of law are adjudicated upon. Until 1894 there was a "Royal Court of Final Appeal" corresponding, more or less, to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in England. This Court has

since been abolished but the functions of such a committee are to some extent exercised by a Full Bench of the High Court which, when so acting, passes judgments in the form of advice to the Sovereign. Below the High Court are the civil and sessions courts which are the highest courts of original jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters. Such a court is styled a District Court for civil matters and a Sessions Court for criminal matters. Below these civil and sessions courts are the courts of the Munsiffs and Village Panchayat Courts for the trial of civil cases and the courts of the Magistrates including Benches of Honorary Magistrates for the trial of criminal cases. Munsiffs' Courts and Village Panchayat Courts have only original jurisdiction and, generally speaking, the jurisdiction of the Munsiff extends up to suits of the value of Rs. 2,000 and that of the Village Panchayat Court up to Rs. 50. Suits tried by the Village Panchayat Courts are of a small cause nature and the decisions are not subject to appeal, although the District Courts have the power to revise them to some limited extent. Munsiffs also try some classes of suits as small cause suits the decisions in which are subject only to revision by the High Court. The decisions of the Munsiff in other suits are subject to regular appeals which lie either to the High Court or to the District Court according as the value of the suit is above Rs. 1,000 or not. In regard to the administration of criminal justice there are below the Sessions Court the Magistrates who are of three classes and some of whom are honorary. The chief magistrate of a district is the District Magistrate who is a magistrate of the first class and under him are other magistrates of the first class and also magistrates of the second class and the third class. Magistrates of the second and third classes have only original jurisdiction and magistrates of the first class, including District Magistrates, have original as well as appellate jurisdiction. The appellate authority over magistrates of the second and third classes is the District Magistrates and, if specially authorised, other First Class Magistrates. The appellate authority over First Class Magistrates, including the District Magistrates, is the Sessions Court. District and First Class Magistrates are Land Revenue officers, but except in a few cases where Tahsildars are empowered to exercise magisterial functions in their

respective taluks, all magistrates of the second and the third class are magistrates exclusively and have no revenue functions. The criminal judiciary in the State in respect of offences committed by European British subjects consists of Special Magistrates and a Special Appellate Judge who are appointed under certain Proclamations under Sign Manual. Special Magistrates exercise original jurisdiction and the Special Appellate Judge exercises appellate and revisionary power over them. But neither of them can award any punishment other than imprisonment extending up to three months or fine up to Rs. 1,000 or both. If in the opinion of the Special Magistrate taking cognizance of a case, the offence is one that cannot be tried by him or be adequately punished by him, he has to commit the offender to the High Court of Madras. All but seven of the stipendiary magistrates in the State are graduates in law.

2. The entire judiciary is recruited from the ranks of duly qualified members of the service or of the bar. Judges of the

*The Judiciary.* High Court are appointed by the Ruler and they are selected from District Judges or from the leading members of the bar.

District Judges are appointed by the Government in consultation with the High Court. Munsiffs are likewise appointed by

*Appointment.* Government on the recommendation of the High Court. District Judges and Munsiffs hold office at the pleasure of the Ruler and vacate office under the rules of the service and are removable for misconduct only after a formal inquiry by a Commission

*Security of office.* duly appointed by the High Court with the sanction of the Ruler. On receiving the report of such Commissioner or Commissioners, the High Court shall, when the officer charged is a District Judge or Munsiff, submit the records of enquiry together with their opinion thereon to the Ruler. The Judges and Munsiffs are without exception graduates in arts and law or barristers. The Courts are absolutely free from any sort of interference on the part of the executive authorities.

*Independence.* Suits against Government are of every day occurrence and Government regard the final decisions of the courts as binding on

them. The courts are authorised by law to issue executions against the Government.

#### Criminal Justice.

3. The number of criminal courts at the commencement of the year was 66. Two new additional temporary Sessions

|                                          |                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><i>Number of Criminal Courts.</i></p> | <p>Courts, one at Quilon and the other at Kottayam were opened during the year. A Munsiff-Magistrate's Court and a Taluk</p> |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Second Class Magistrate's Court at Parur</p> | <p>were opened towards the close of the year. The Bench Magistrate's Court at Parur was abolished. There were thus at the end of the year 68 criminal courts or one court to every 112 square miles and 58,912 inhabitants against 115 square miles and 60,697 inhabitants in the previous year.</p> |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

#### Crime.

4. The total number of offences reported during the year fell from 30,775 to 30,723 or by '17 per cent, while those returned as true rose from 29,989 to 30,158

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><i>Offences.</i></p> | <p>or by '55 per cent. Offences under the Penal Code increased by 4'27 per cent, while those under the special and local laws fell by 3'29 per cent. The percentage of offences under the Penal Code to the total number reported rose from 41 to 43 while that of offences under the special and local laws fell from 59 to 57. The increase in offences under the Penal Code was in respect of hurt, offences relating to marriage, grievous hurt, criminal intimidation and theft, while offences in respect of criminal force and assault, murder, rape and cheating showed a decrease. With regard to offences under special and local laws, those under the Motor Vehicles Regulation, Abkari Regulation and Weights and Measures Regulation showed an increase while there was a decrease of crime under the Police Regulation, the Hackney Carriage Regulation and the Municipal Regulation. The number of cases rejected <i>in limine</i> and of those struck off as false, frivolous or vexatious fell from 770 and 16 to 558 and 7 respectively. The percentage of true to reported cases rose from 97'12 to 98'16. The number of persons involved in the cases for disposal rose</p> |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

from 67,105 to 69,093. Of these, 51,735 or 74.88 per cent were brought to trial against 48,549 or 72.34 per cent in the previous year. The percentage of conviction of persons brought to trial before the Sessions Courts and the Magistrates' Courts including the Bench Magistrates' Courts, was 31 against 35 in 1102.

5. The number of female offenders involved in the cases for disposal was 4,119 against 4,188 in 1102. This number constituted 6 per cent of the total number of *Female Offenders*. persons involved against 7 per cent in 1102. Of these, 1,067 or 26 per cent were charged with compoundable offences such as simple hurt, criminal force, assault and trespass. The number of females convicted was 869 against 360. The percentage of conviction rose from 9 to 21. The largest number of convictions was under the Municipal Regulation.

6. The number of juveniles accused rose from 237 to 465 of whom 442 were boys and 23 girls. Of these, 94 boys were brought to trial and 14 convicted against *Juveniles*. 140 brought to trial and 22 convicted in 1102. The convictions were for theft (5), under the Police Regulation (8) and under the Opium and Bhang Regulation (1). The number of juveniles transferred to the Reformatory fell from 8 to 4.

7. The number of public servants prosecuted fell from 154 to 121. Six of these were prosecuted under the orders of departmental heads and the remaining prosecutions were instituted by private individuals either with or without Government sanction. The corresponding figures for 1102 were 7 and 147 respectively. The offences for which the public servants were prosecuted were torture and extortion, wrongful restraint and wrongful confinement, defamation, criminal breach of trust, other offences, theft and robbery. The number of convictions was four, the same as in the previous year. One conviction was for wrongful restraint and wrongful confinement, while the rest were for other offences.

## Magistrates' Courts.

8. The total number of cases for disposal in the Magistrates' Courts rose from 36,078 to 36,118 and the number of persons involved also rose from 67,105 to 69,093.

*Original Work.* The number of cases disposed of during the year was 31,466 involving 56,524 persons against 32,532 cases involving 57,038 persons in 1102. The balance pending disposal at the end of the year was 4,652 cases involving 12,569 persons against 3,546 cases affecting 10,067 persons. The percentage of disposal fell from 90 to 87.

9. The total number of cases for disposal fell from 13,142 to 11,183, while the number of disposals also fell from 12,457 cases to 9,893 cases. The arrears

*Bench Magistrates' Courts.* at the end of the year rose from 685 to 1,290 cases. The percentage of disposal was 88 against 90 in 1102. The largest disposal and the heaviest arrears were as in the previous years in Trivandrum. The smallest disposal was in Changanachery. Cases pending for more than 3 months in all the courts together numbered 435 of which 365 were in Trivandrum. The average duration of a case from the beginning to the end of the trial was 17 days, i. e., a day less than that for the previous year. The percentage of convictions rose from 68 to 74. The total number of witnesses examined, viz., 1,081 fell short of the number for the previous year by 554. The number of witnesses detained beyond the first day of their appearance was 96, i. e., 62 more than the number for the previous year.

10. The number of cases filed during the year in the Stipendiary Magistrates' Courts rose from 19,663 to 21,490,

while the disposals also correspondingly increased from 20,075 cases to 21,573. *Stipendiary Magistrates' Courts.* The arrears at the end of the year comprised 3,362 cases against 2,861 cases in 1102. Of these pending cases 1,630 were more than 3 months old. The average disposal by a Magistrate rose from 501 to 526 cases. The average duration of a case

was 40 days for preliminary enquiries and 31 days for trials against 46 and 26 days respectively in the previous year. The longest duration of a case for trial, *viz.*, 144 days, was in the Additional District Magistrate's Court, Padmanabhapuram. The Stipendiary Magistrates examined in all 41,431 witnesses against 40,493 witnesses in 1102 and detained beyond the first day of their appearance 716 witnesses against 882 in the previous year. The percentage of conviction was 19 against 20 in 1102 and of the persons convicted, 79 per cent were sentenced to fine only. Solitary confinement was awarded to 28 persons.

11. The number of magistrates who exercised appellate powers remained the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, 11.

The number of appeal cases for disposal *Appellate Work* fell from 1,470 to 1,085; the number of cases disposed of also fell from 1,253 to 742; and the number pending at the close of the year rose from 217 to 343. The heaviest pendency was in the First Class Magistrate's Court, Trivandrum, *viz.*, 177. The largest number of appeals of more than 3 months' duration was also pending in the same court. The average duration of an appeal rose from 80 to 97 days. The longest duration, *viz.*, 262 days, was in the Additional District Magistrate's Court, Padmanabhapuram. The results of the appeal cases were that in 45 per cent of cases the finding and sentence of the subordinate magistracy were confirmed and in 29 per cent the conviction was quashed and acquittal ordered.

12. The total number of cases that came up for disposal before the Magistrates' Courts in exercise of their preventive and miscellaneous jurisdiction rose from 1,152

*Miscellaneous Work.* involving 2,529 persons to 1,233 cases involving 2,436 persons. The number of cases disposed of was 724 affecting 1,291 persons against 809 cases affecting 1,418 persons in 1102. The number of persons convicted rose from 152 to 159 and was 7 per cent of the number dealt with against 6 in 1102. There were 20 applications for revision under Section 326 of the Criminal Procedure Code and of these all but one were disposed of by the District Magistrates.

13. The amount of fees and fines realised from Magistrates' Courts was Rs. 69,225. This exceeded the amount for the previous year by Rs. 3,310. The balance which was pending recovery at the end of the year was Rs. 15,317 against Rs. 20,033 in 1102.

#### Sessions Courts.

14. The number of cases committed to the Sessions Courts fell from 187 to 153. The total number of cases for trial also fell from 208 to 170. Of these, 157 cases were disposed of, leaving a balance of 13 cases at the end of the year. The disposals fell short of the number for the previous year by 36 cases. There was no pending case in the Parur court. The largest pendency was at Nagercoil, viz., 6. Six of the pending cases were more than one month and less than 3 months old. The average duration for the trial of a sessions case decreased from 31 days to 15 days. The longest duration, viz., 22 days, was at Quilon. The Sessions Courts examined 2,349 witnesses against 2,760 in 1102. Of these witnesses, 409 were detained beyond the first day of their appearance against 334 in the previous year. The percentage of convictions was 29 against 51 in 1102. In two cases, the extreme penalty of the law was awarded and in eleven cases the punishment was rigorous imprisonment for life. The corresponding figures for 1102 were 3 and 22 respectively.

15. There were 307 appeal cases for disposal during the year. This was less than the number for the previous year by 78. The disposals also fell from 316 to 266 cases. The largest pendency of appeals, viz., 19, was in the Trivandrum court. Parur had disposed of all appeal cases. The average duration of an appeal fell from 64 to 51 days. The longest duration of 91 days also occurred in the Trivandrum court. The disposal of the appeals resulted in 44 per cent of the decisions of the superior Magistrates being confirmed and 38 per cent being

reversed. The corresponding percentages in the previous year were 42 and 52 respectively.

16. Of the 13 applications for revision, 9 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 4 applications at the end of the year. The number of appeal statements and calendars received for revision was 4,254 and all these were duly revised.

*Miscellaneous Work.*

17. A sum of Rs. 1,161 was realised in the shape of fines and the amount pending recovery rose from Rs. 14,518 to Rs. 14,764.

*Fines.*

#### High Court.

18. The Sessions Courts referred 12 cases to the High Court under Section 278 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

These cases involved 12 persons and fell short of the number for the previous year by 8. Including the cases pending at the close of the previous year, 22 cases involving 23 persons were disposed of, and 4 cases involving 4 persons left pending at the end of the year. The result of the disposal of these cases was that in the case of 2 persons, the sentence of death was commuted to one of imprisonment for life, that rigorous imprisonment for life was confirmed in the case of 15 persons and that the conviction of six persons was altered to one of less heinous offence and lighter punishment. The average duration of a referred trial rose from 78 days in 1102 to 99 days in 1103.

19. The number of appeals preferred to the High Court during the year fell from 193 to 143. The total number for disposal, including the arrears, rose from 205 to 226 of which 153 were disposed of against 122 in 1102. The pendency at the end of the year was 73 against 83 in 1102. Of the pending cases 34 were more than 3 months old. The average duration of an appeal disposed of rose from 116 to 198 days. In 33 per cent of appeals, interference was declined; in 23 per cent

*Appeals.*

sentence was altered with or without alteration of conviction; in 19 per cent conviction was quashed and acquittal ordered; and in 5 per cent, acquittal was set aside and conviction entered. Of the appeals preferred to the High Court, 35 were by Government. The number of such appeals for disposal during the year was 47 of which 32 were disposed of. Only thirteen of these cases were successful.

20. There were 844 cases for revision and of these 536 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 308 cases. The corresponding figures for 1102 were 607,573 and

*Miscellaneous.* 306 respectively. The number of calendars and appeal statements revised during the year fell from 1,389 to 991. Sixty three applications for transfer of cases from one court to another and 231 applications for bail, etc., were also disposed of by the High Court.

#### Extradition.

21. The number of persons extradited to British India from this State at the instance of the Agent to the Governor-General, Madras States, was 16. Eight persons were surrendered to the State, of whom 2 were convicted and the remaining 6 were awaiting trial when the year closed. The principal offences with which the accused were charged were hurt, theft, murder, robbery and criminal breach of trust.

#### Civil Justice.

22. The continuance of heavy arrears in the High Court and in the District and Munsiffs' Courts necessitated the extension of the term of the temporary bench of

*Number of Civil* the High Court as well as that of the five  
*Courts.* temporary second and additional Sessions  
Judges' Courts and of the four temporary  
Munsiffs' Courts till the end of the year under report. In order to deal with the accumulation of arrears in the Quilon and

Kottayam District Courts a new temporary additional Sessions Judge's Court was opened in each of these places. The temporary Munsiff's Court at Trivandrum was abolished and in its place a Munsiff-Magistrate's Court was established at Neduvankad. There were therefore besides the High Court 74 civil courts exercising jurisdiction in the State on the last day of the year. These courts comprised 6 District Courts, 9 Second Judges' Courts, 40 District Munsiffs' Courts and 19 Village Panchayat Courts. The number of Courts increased by 2 compared with that for the previous year. There was thus one civil court to every 102 square miles and 53,414 inhabitants.

23. The volume of litigation during the past three years is shown below:—

| Year. | Original Suits.           |                   |                  |        | Appeals.         |             |        | Grand Total. |
|-------|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------|------------------|-------------|--------|--------------|
|       | Village Panchayat Courts. | Munsiffs' Courts. | District Courts. | Total. | District Courts. | High Court. | Total. |              |
| 1901  | 3,458                     | 61,020            | 208              | 74,686 | 1,021            | 1,780       | 2,801  | 86,041       |
| 1902  | 3,018                     | 62,737            | 1,498            | 75,633 | 4,191            | 1,443       | 5,634  | 79,271       |
| 1903  | 3,230                     | 61,430            | 1,060            | 71,710 | 1,624            | 1,557       | 3,181  | 81,661       |

During the last triennium, the year under report witnessed a decrease in the number of suits in Village Panchayat Courts.

In regard to Munsiffs' Courts, there was a larger number of suits during the year compared with the two previous years.

The number of suits showed a variation in the District Courts during the last three years, the tendency however being towards an increase. With regard to appeal cases, the number has been steadily on the increase in the District Courts, while in the High Court although the number of such suits varied from year to year, the number during the year was larger than the two previous years. The above statistics clearly show that litigation in general exhibits a tendency to increase. The percentage of increase during the year in the

total volume of litigation was 2·21. The total number of original suits exceeded the average for the quinquennium by 1,179. There was one original suit to every 53 persons. Although there was a fall in respect of suits for money or moveable property, the number of suits relating to land was on the increase. The increase was particularly under the head of redemption of mortgages, partition and renewal of *Kanapattom*. The number of suits for partition was 486 in 1101, 819 in 1102 and 1,270 in 1103. The aggregate value of suits has been declining during the last triennium. It was Rs. 2·12 crores in 1101; it fell to Rs. 1·53 crores in 1102 and went down to Rs. 1·49 crores in 1103. The average value of a suit has similarly gone down from Rs. 286 in 1101 to Rs. 199 in the year under report. It is significant that as in the year 1101 the largest decrease *viz.*, 677, was in suits of value below Rs. 30 and the largest increase, *viz.*, 941, in suits of value between Rs. 100 and Rs. 500. While there was an increase in suits of value between Rs. 500 and Rs. 1,000 and between Rs. 2,000 and Rs. 5,000 in the previous year, suits of value between Rs. 50 and Rs. 100 showed a substantial increase and suits between Rs. 500 and Rs. 1,000 and between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 2,000 and above Rs. 5,000 appreciably decreased during the year. The total number of ordinary suits filed rose from 33,362 to 34,444 and that of small cause suits from 40,271 to 40,296. The latter kind of suits constituted 54 per cent of the total original litigation.

#### Original Litigation.

24. A statement giving the details of the disposal and pendency of ordinary suits and small causes  
*Original Work.* in the several grades of courts in the State during the past three years is given below :—

| Name of Court.           | Nature of Suit. | Total No. for disposal including arrears etc. |         |         | No. disposed of. |        |        |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------|---------|------------------|--------|--------|
|                          |                 | 1101                                          | 1102    | 1103    | 1101             | 1102   | 1103   |
| Village Panchayat Courts | Small Causes    | 11,327                                        | 11,180  | 10,618  | 10,611           | 10,463 | 9,886  |
| Munsiff Courts           | Small Causes    | 36,619                                        | 36,043  | 37,401  | 32,223           | 31,386 | 32,332 |
|                          | Ordinary Suits  | 87,823                                        | 86,178  | 80,628  | 84,815           | 84,526 | 78,486 |
|                          | Total           | 94,424                                        | 94,523  | 87,029  | 87,047           | 86,125 | 80,618 |
| District Courts          | Small Causes    | 44                                            | 87      | 27      | 38               | 26     | 19     |
|                          | Ordinary Suits  | 2,800                                         | 3,007   | 3,389   | 159              | 181    | 1,108  |
|                          | Total           | 2,844                                         | 3,094   | 3,416   | 197              | 207    | 1,127  |
|                          | Grand Total     | 108,428                                       | 108,451 | 111,901 | 78,633           | 77,534 | 80,725 |

| Name of Court.           | Nature of Suit. | No. pending disposal |        |        | Average duration in days— |      |       |                   |      |      |
|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------|--------|---------------------------|------|-------|-------------------|------|------|
|                          |                 |                      |        |        | Contested cases           |      |       | Uncontested cases |      |      |
|                          |                 | 1101                 | 1102   | 1103   | 1101                      | 1102 | 1103  | 1101              | 1102 | 1103 |
| Village Panchayat Courts | Small Causes    | 5,6                  | 779    | 736    | 114                       | 84   | 78    | 34                | 39   | 31   |
| Munsiff Courts           | Small Causes    | 4,837                | 4,763  | 4,869  | ...                       | ...  | ...   | ...               | ...  | ...  |
|                          | Ordinary Suits  | 28,020               | 28,843 | 24,042 | 432                       | 140  | 475   | 104               | 100  | 124  |
|                          | Total           | 27,407               | 28,166 | 28,911 | ...                       | ...  | ...   | ...               | ...  | ...  |
| District Courts          | Small Causes    | 6                    | 11     | 8      | 734                       | 745  | 1,128 | 831               | 863  | 436  |
|                          | Ordinary Suits  | 1,841                | 2,226  | 2,281  | 746                       | 746  | 1,321 | 349               | 379  | 400  |
|                          | Total           | 1,847                | 2,237  | 2,289  | ...                       | ...  | ...   | ...               | ...  | ...  |
|                          | Grand Total     | 29,770               | 31,117 | 31,936 | ...                       | ...  | ...   | ...               | ...  | ...  |

\*Those related to original suits.

It has been stated in the previous paragraph that the volume of original litigation increased during the year. With the accumulation of arrears every year, the total number of original suits for disposal also increased proportionately. The number was 108,425 in 1101; it went up to 108,451 next year and it

stood at 111,961 in 1103. The increase was a little above 3 per cent. The number of suits disposed of however did not keep pace with this increase. While 78,655 suits were disposed of in 1101, the disposals fell to 77,334 suits in 1102 and went up to 80,025 in 1103. The result was that the arrears continued to accumulate. The number of suits pending disposal was 29,770 in 1101; it rose to 31,117 in 1102 and the figure at the end of the year under report mounted up to 31,936. The question as to how best to combat law's delays and accelerate disposal of suits by civil courts is engaging the attention of Government.

25. The total number of suits filed in the Village Panchayat Courts formed 12 per cent of the total original institution in the State against 14 per cent in 1102. The average value of a suit fell from Rs. 20 to Rs. 18. The largest number of suits filed and disposed of was in Trivandrum. Of the 736 suits pending, 96 were more than 6 months old and 28 more than a year old, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 97 and 36 respectively.

26. The total number of suits filed in the Munsiffs' Courts constituted 86 per cent of the total original litigation against 85 per cent in 1102. Although the total value of suits in these courts increased by Rs. 2,519, the average value of a suit fell from Rs. 176 to Rs. 171. The disposal of contested ordinary suits formed 35 per cent of the total disposal of ordinary suits, while the percentage for contested small causes was 15, the corresponding percentage for the previous year being 36 and 27 respectively. Sixty two per cent of the ordinary suits disposed of related to immoveable property. The average duration of contested ordinary suits exceeded one year in 34 courts against 26 courts in 1102. The longest duration was 1,377 days in the temporary court, Neyyattinkara. Of the suits pending disposal at the end of the year suits of more than a year's duration fell from 5,282 to 5,274, while those more than 2 years old rose from 3,317, to 4,208.

27. The number of ordinary suits filed in the District Courts formed as in the previous year 1 per cent of the entire volume of litigation in the State. The

*District Courts.* average value of a suit fell from Rs. 3,883 to Rs. 3,539. The number of suits disposed of was 33 per cent of the number for disposal against 27 per cent in 1102. The number of contested ordinary suits disposed of formed 55 per cent of the total disposal of ordinary suits, against 43 per cent in the previous year. Of the ordinary suits disposed of, 71 per cent related to land as in 1102. Besides these suits, the District Courts had to deal with 99 references under Section 19 of the Land Acquisition Regulation. Of these references which fell short of the number in 1102 by 21, the number disposed of was 63 or 64 per cent, against 35 per cent in 1102. The balance pending disposal was 36 of which 18 were more than one year old. Suits of more than 2 years' duration increased from 324 to 813; and those more than a year old also rose from 502 to 601; while those of more than 5 years' duration fell from 201 to 197. The heaviest pendency of the suits more than a year old was at Kottayam, viz., 376.

28. The number of applications for execution of decrees received, disposed of and pending in the several grades of courts

*Execution of* during the past three years is detailed in  
*Decrees.* the following statement :—

| Name of Courts.           | No. for disposal. |         |         | No. disposed of. |         |         |
|---------------------------|-------------------|---------|---------|------------------|---------|---------|
|                           | 1101              | 1102    | 1103    | 1101             | 1102    | 1103    |
| Village Panchayat Courts. | 7,504             | 7,735   | 7,737   | 7,344            | 7,519   | 7,528   |
| Munsif's Courts           | 118,082           | 118,841 | 120,458 | 108,083          | 99,818  | 103,963 |
| District Courts           | 2,860             | 2,839   | 2,855   | 2,336            | 2,039   | 2,093   |
| Total                     | 128,396           | 128,415 | 131,050 | 117,663          | 109,376 | 113,584 |

| Name of Courts.           | Balances. |        |        | Average duration in days of application in |      |      |               |      |      |
|---------------------------|-----------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------------|------|------|---------------|------|------|
|                           |           |        |        | Ordinary Suits.                            |      |      | Small Causes. |      |      |
|                           | 1101      | 1102   | 1103   | 1101                                       | 1102 | 1103 | 1101          | 1102 | 1103 |
| Village Panchayat Courts. | 143       | 218    | 209    | ...                                        | ...  | ...  | 47            | 40   | 81   |
| Munsiff Courts.           | 11,917    | 14,023 | 16,076 | 40                                         | 41   | 39   | 23            | 23   | 22   |
| District Courts.          | 634       | 804    | 708    | 88                                         | 86   | 110  | 38            | 38   | 47   |
| Total                     | 12,734    | 17,045 | 17,693 | ...                                        | ...  | ...  | ...           | ...  | ...  |

The total number of applications for execution of decrees was on the increase consistent with the growth in the volume of litigation during the last triennium. But the rate of disposal did not keep pace with the increase in the number of applications. Although there was an appreciable improvement in the total disposals during the year under report, the pendency has increased from 15,734 in 1101, to 17,646 in 1103. While the increase in the number of applications during the past three years was only 2 per cent, the number pending disposal rose by 12 per cent. The percentage of applications in which full satisfaction was obtained fell from 18 to 17, and that in which partial satisfaction was obtained remained almost the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, 12. The number of applications which proved wholly infructuous formed 65 per cent of the total disposal. The amount realised by issue of process fell from Rs. 56.79 lakhs to Rs. 40.77 lakhs, while that realised without issue of process also fell from Rs. 9.81 lakhs to Rs. 8.79 lakhs. A total sum of Rs. 20,549 was paid by Government in satisfaction of the several decrees passed against them. Of the applications pending at the close of the year, 3,672 were more than 6 months old, against 3,242 in 1102. Judgment debtors were imprisoned in 690 cases against 791 cases in 1102. Immoveable property was sold in 4,355 cases against 4,406 cases in the previous year. The number of cases in which partition was effected rose from 58 to 81. The number of decrees received for execution in the State from the Cochin State fell from 40 to 39, and that

received from British Indian Courts also fell from 88 to 44. Decrees were sent to the Cochin State for execution in 36 cases and the British Indian Courts in 42 cases, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 28 and 90 respectively.

29. In addition to the items of work described above, the District Courts had to dispose of miscellaneous work such as

*Miscellaneous.* petitions under the Insolvency, Succession Certificate, and Guardians and Wards Regulations and civil miscellaneous petitions. The total number of such petitions for disposal during the year was 41,009 of which 40,175 petitions were disposed of leaving a balance of 834 petitions at the end of the year. The Munsiffs' Courts also had to deal with 295,690 civil miscellaneous petitions of which 293,747 were disposed of, the balance pending disposal being 1,943.

#### Appellate Jurisdiction.

30. The total number of appeals including cross objections and appeals from orders which came on for disposal during the year rose from 10,286 to 11,283. The

*District Courts.* disposal also rose from 3,809 to 4,983.

The number of appeals pending at the end of the year fell from 6,477 to 6,300. The heaviest pendency, *viz.*, 1,578, was at Quilon. The disposal on the merits showed an increase of 1,025 during the year. Of the regular appeals disposed of, *viz.*, 4,153, those relating to land were 2,099. The average duration of regular contested appeals disposed of fell from 603 to 601 days while that of uncontested appeals rose from 403 to 420 days. The longest duration of contested and uncontested regular appeals was at Parur *viz.*, 824 and 661 days respectively. Amongst pending appeals, there were 1,217 regular appeals more than one year old and 947 more than 2 years old. Parur had the largest number of appeals of over 5 years, *viz.*, 13. There were 480 cases for disposal by the District Courts in which Government was a party either as plaintiff or defendant. Of these 159 were disposed of and in 15 per cent alone the decision was in favour of Government.

●

31. The following statement compares the file, disposal and pendency of first and second appeals in the High Court during the past three years :—

| Particulars.   | No. for disposal. |       |       | No. disposed of |      |       |
|----------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-----------------|------|-------|
|                |                   |       |       | (In the month,  |      |       |
|                | 1101              | 1102  | 1103  | 1101            | 1102 | 1103  |
| First appeals  | 1,379             | 1,373 | 1,504 | 523             | 383  | 502   |
| Second appeals | 1,398             | 1,342 | 1,569 | 395             | 454  | 515   |
| Total          | 2,743             | 2,604 | 3,083 | 1,118           | 836  | 1,015 |

| Particulars.   | No. disposed of |      |      | Balance. |       |       |
|----------------|-----------------|------|------|----------|-------|-------|
|                | Otherwise.      |      |      |          |       |       |
|                | 1101            | 1102 | 1103 | 1101     | 1102  | 1103  |
| First appeals  | 36              | 38   | 44   | 820      | 532   | 1,048 |
| Second appeals | 46              | 38   | 30   | 723      | 880   | 1,046 |
| Total          | 82              | 76   | 74   | 1,542    | 1,782 | 2,094 |

The increase in the number of cases for disposal during the past triennium was 16 per cent, while the disposal increased by only 9 per cent. The pendency which was 1,542 in 1101, increased to 1,782 in 1102 and went up still further to 2,094 in 1103. The percentages of the number of appeals disposed of to the total number for disposal during the past three years were 43.76 in 1101 and 33.85 in 1102 and 34.21 in 1103. Of the first appeals disposed of 14 were heard and decided by a Bench of 3 Judges, against 23 in 1102. The average duration of a first appeal disposed of rose from 468 to 579 days and that of second appeals from 414 to 482 days. Of the appeals pending at the close of the year, 438 first appeals and 335 second appeals were more than one year old; and 170 first appeals and 61 second appeals were more than 2 years old. There were besides 215 cross objections and 427 miscellaneous appeals for disposal during the year. Of these 110 of the former and 197 of the latter were disposed of. Thirty eight applications out of 103 for

review of judgment were also disposed of by the High Court. The number of civil miscellaneous and revision petitions for disposal and the number disposed of respectively were 4,583 and 2,598. Munsiffs' decrees were confirmed in 51 per cent and modified in 12 per cent of cases. The percentages of confirmation and reversal in original suits in District Courts were 56 and 20 respectively. Decisions of District Courts on appeal were reversed in 21 per cent, confirmed in 66 per cent and modified in 12 per cent. There were 100 cases for disposal by the High Court in which Government was a party. Of these 35 were disposed of and in 71 per cent the decision went in favour of Government. Full Bench sittings increased from 33 to 46; Division Bench sittings from 381 to 403 and Single Judges sitting from 170 to 190.

32. The following statement shows the receipts and expenditure on account of the Administration of Justice during the past three years :—

| <i>Finance.</i>               | 1101      | 1102      | 1103      |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                               | Rs.       | Rs.       | Rs.       |
| Receipts.                     | 58,612    | 66,473    | 67,603    |
| High Court ...                | 1,46,093  | 1,52,522  | 1,46,104  |
| Civil and Sessions Courts ... | 6,65,886  | 6,78,994  | 7,10,896  |
| Criminal Courts ...           | 1,41,280  | 1,41,848  | 1,45,150  |
| Sirkar Vakils ...             | 85,941    | 84,459    | 87,109    |
| Total ...                     | 10,39,200 | 10,57,823 | 10,89,259 |

The receipts and expenditure under Administration of Justice given in Chapter III include those on account of the Law College and the Law College Hostel. The receipts and expenditure under the latter have been excluded from the above statement and shown in Chapter XII on Public Instruction. The net expenditure on account of the Administration of Justice rose from Rs. 9,91,350 to Rs. 10,21,656.

## CHAPTER VI.

### REPRESENTATIVE INSTITUTIONS.

#### Legislative Council.

The constitution and powers of the Legislative Council have been described in Chapter II. The second Council constituted under Regulation II of 1097 was dissolved in Medom 1103. A general election was conducted in the succeeding month and the prominent features of the general election are detailed *infra*. The third Council was summoned in Mithunam 1103. Three meetings of the Legislative Council lasting in all for 20 days were held during the year. The Council sat for official legislative business on five days and read four bills for the first time, five bills for the second time and three bills for the third time.

2. Since the promulgation of the Legislative Council Regulation, II of 1097, the general election which took place during the year under report was the third of the kind. The first took place in 1097 (1922) and the second in 1100 (1925). The total number of electors at the last elections according to the final rolls was 140,331 or an increase of 17,881 over the number for the year 1100. The Trivandrum Municipal Town was the only general urban constituency in the State and contained 4,779 electors. All the general rural constituencies together contained 133,046 electors. The special constituencies, *viz.*, Jennies, Planters, Commerce and Industries, Idavakas and Political Pensioners, together had 2,506 electors. There were 28 constituencies but no poll was necessary in six of them as there was only one candidate in each of these constituencies. Polling was conducted on 2 days. The number of polling areas rose from 198 in 1097 to 241 in 1100 and 283 in 1103. The increase in the number of polling areas facilitated easy recording of votes. Of these 283 polling areas, 81 had more than 600 electors each the maximum number being 874 in one of the areas in the

Muvattupuzha taluk. The largest number of electors was in the Kalkulam *cum* Vilavancode constituency, *viz.*, 10,915, followed by Mavelikara *cum* Karthikapally (9,719) and Meenachil *cum* Devicolum (7,855). Of the electors, 112,565 (80 per cent) were men, 27,766 (20 per cent) women, 49,552 (33 per cent) Nairs, 12,745 (9 per cent) Ezhavas, 8,012 (5 per cent) Mahomedans and 39,519 (28 per cent) Christians. The number of voters who actually polled was 78,861 or 56 per cent of the total number of electors. This percentage exceeded that for the Madras Presidency by 8 and for Bombay by 15. In the general urban constituency and in the general rural constituencies alike 58 per cent of the electors voted. Four per cent of these votes were treated as invalid. The highest number of invalid votes was in the Tovala constituency followed by Agastiswaram while the lowest number was in the special Jemmi constituency. The highest percentage of voters was in the Commerce and Industries constituency, North, *viz.*, 89. This was followed by Pathanamthitta (80), Thiruvella (78), Kunnatnad (78) and Commerce and Industries, South (78). The lowest percentage was in the Trivandrum *cum* Neduvankad constituency, *viz.*, 44.

3. The Travancore Hackney Carriage Regulation Amendment Bill, the Irrigation Regulation Amendment Bill and the

Travancore Mines and Minerals Bill were settled by the Council and passed as Regulations I, II and III of 1103 respectively.

*Legislation.* The first Regulation was passed to enable the recovery from parties concerned of the cost of fare-plates, drivers' badges, etc., supplied under the Hackney Carriage Regulation, VI of 1089. The second Regulation was passed with a view to facilitate and compel the timely execution of works which are a common benefit or necessity for agricultural lands lying together but held by different proprietors. The third Regulation was passed to provide for the regulation and inspection of mines in the State. It is a new and important piece of social legislation affecting labour in mines. In regard to hours of employment in mines, a nine hour day has been adopted at the instance of the Council for labour above ground and a seven hour day for below ground. It is a ten hour day and nine hour day respectively under the British Indian Act. In regard to the

employment of women too an important change has been effected at the instance of the Council. Woman labour below ground is absolutely prohibited by the Regulation while it is not so by the British Indian Act. Even above ground, the employment of women during the night is absolutely prohibited.

4. Four new legislative bills were introduced into the Council during the year. They are :—

- (i) The Abkari Regulation Amendment Bill.
- (ii) The Travancore Probate and Administration Bill.
- (iii) The Travancore Administrator General Bill.
- (iv) The Travancore Official Trustee Bill.

The Abkari Regulation Amendment Bill was introduced in pursuance of the treaty undertaking by the British Government at Versailles to give effect to the provisions of the International Opium Convention and suppress as far as possible the use of, and traffic in, cocaine and similar harmful drugs. By the bill, the cultivation of the ganja and coca plants is to be absolutely prohibited and power is also to be taken to license and control, if necessary, the dealing in such drugs even by medical practitioners and druggists. The bill has passed the second reading and is awaiting final reading. The Probate and Administration Bill provides for the administration of the estates of deceased persons in Travancore by the grant of probates and letters of administration. It is drawn up on the lines of the corresponding law operating in British India on Hindus generally and Mahomedans and, as there, the measure proposed for Travancore is only permissive to authorise but not compel the taking out of probate or administration, the provision in the bill being to the effect that though a person who has obtained a grant of probate or letters of administration will be conclusively deemed a representative of the deceased person for all purposes and against all persons, it is not compulsory that such a grant should be taken for establishing any title to the estate of any deceased person. This bill is also awaiting final reading. The Administrator General Bill proposes to provide a public administrator and the Official Trustee Bill, a public trustee, for Travancore, as do the Administrator General's Act, 1913 and the Official Trustee's Act, 1913 respectively for British Indian

Provinces. The principle of these bills having been accepted by the Council, they were referred to Select Committees.

5. Supplementary grants to the extent of Rs. 2,05,117 were voted during the first two meetings of the Council. The major portion of these grants was for the Public Works Department. The first meeting of the third Council passed the Budget for 1104 M. E. The total amount of reduction of grants made by the Council was Rs. 11,392.

6. Notice was given of 752 interpellations. Of these, the President disallowed 61 as they contravened one or other of the rules under the Legislative Council Rules.

*Interpellations.* The number of questions answered was 378; but only 329 were actually published in the Proceedings as the members responsible for the remaining were absent at question time. Of the questions admitted, 313 were not answered for want of time or because of difficulty in collecting material for the answers in time. The average number of questions answered at each day of the meeting was 21. Twenty two per cent of the questions related to local needs and public works; 18 per cent to education; 14 per cent to public health; 13 per cent to appointments in the public service and communal claims thereto; 9 per cent to the Revenue Department; and the rest to other departments and miscellaneous matters.

7. The Council discussed 7 resolutions on matters of general public interest. The first related to the change of dates of public examinations from March to December.

*Resolutions.* It was put to the vote and lost. The second recommended that the embargo on the cultivation of tobacco in the State be removed and its cultivation encouraged. This was withdrawn on the assurance given that the Director of Agriculture will be asked to make experiments in tobacco cultivation. The third related to the constitution of a Board of Examiners for the English School Leaving Certificate and Vernacular School Leaving Certificate examinations. It was withdrawn on the Council being informed that such

a board had already been constituted for the purpose in the State. The fourth was for the cancellation of the rules relating to the removal of timber and bamboos from private holdings. The resolution was rejected by the Council. The fifth resolution recommended that prices be fixed by Government for vernacular text books; but it was rejected by the Council. The sixth recommended that encouragement should be afforded to the Homeopathic system of medicine in the State by a liberal system of grants-in-aid and by opening Homeopathic dispensaries and hospitals in suitable places. It was passed by the Council. The last resolution was for the repeal of the Newspapers Regulation, V of 1101 and it was rejected by the Council. This was the second occasion on which the Council rejected such a proposal.

8. There were during the year 3 notices of motions for adjournment to discuss recent matters of urgent public importance.

As none of these came within the terms of the rules providing for such adjournments, the applications for leave were disallowed by the President. The important debates, other than in connection with legislation, were on the following subjects :—

(1) Separation of judicial functions from the revenue officers.

(2) Abolition of Dewan Peishkarships.

(3) Improvement of the condition of markets.

(4) Improvement of the status and pay of Proverthicars.

(5) Increasing the production of salt in the State.

(6) Excise policy to be changed with a view to keep down consumption of liquor, etc.

(7) Surrender to the people of the Government's right over teak trees.

(8) Separation of audit from accounts and the appointment of an independent Audit Officer.

(9) Abolition of the Administrative Board, Medical Services.

These subjects were discussed in token motions in connection with the Budget for 1104. The motions in respect of subjects (2), (7) and (9) were carried by the House; and the rest were withdrawn with the exception of the one relating to subject No. (6) which did not come to vote as the time prescribed for the demand expired before the discussion came to a close. The motion No. (1) regarding the separation of judicial functions from revenue officers was withdrawn by the member on the acceptance by Government, as a matter of principle, of the request to divest the three existing Tahsildar-Magistrates of their magisterial functions.

#### Sri Mulam Popular Assembly.

9. The twenty-fourth session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly commenced its sittings on Monday the 27th February 1928. Copies of the Administration Report for 1102 M. E. were distributed among the members. A statement of action taken on the representations made at the previous sessions of the Assembly was prepared and furnished to each member as in the previous year. The Dewan opened the Assembly at 12 noon with an address dealing with the salient features of the year's administration and referring to the Government's future policy generally. The consideration of the representations began the next day. The session lasted 11 days. The number of representations made during the session was 196 of which 43 per cent related to local needs, 18 per cent to communal questions, 10 per cent to land revenue and judicial matters and the rest to the activities of other departments and miscellaneous subjects.

## CHAPTER VII.

### PROTECTION.

#### Police.

*Commissioner of Police.* Mr. W. H. Pitt, *Indian Police.*  
Mr. Justus Daniell, *in charge.*

Mr. Pitt was the Commissioner of Police till the 12th Medom 1103 when he proceeded on leave preparatory to reversion to the British service. During  
*Personnel.* Mr. Pitt's absence, Mr. J. J. Daniell, Acting District Superintendent of Police, Trivandrum, was in charge of the duties of the Commissioner of Police, till the end of the year.

2. The total sanctioned strength of the permanent force on the last day of the year was 2,132 officers and men, or 9 more than the corresponding figure for the previous year. There was thus one member of the police force to every 3.5 square miles and 18,789 inhabitants in the State.  
*Strength, Recruitment and Discipline.* The actual strength of the force at the end of the year was 2,101 officers and men, there being 4 vacancies in the cadre of Inspectors and 27 in that of the constabulary. There was no recruitment of Inspectors during the year. The number of constables enlisted was 106; one head constable also was directly recruited. There were 11 dismissals against 14 in 1102. The percentage of officers and men punished departmentally rose from 42 to 45. The increase was attributable to the increased disciplinary powers granted to the inspectorate. Cases in which criminal proceedings were brought against police officers and men by the public was 77 against 78 in 1102 and the number of men involved in such cases increased from 89 to 101. Of these 101 men, 2 were

convicted, 43 discharged and 56 were under trial at the end of the year. The 42 men who were under trial at the end of the previous year were all discharged. In one case, the constable concerned was awarded compensation for frivolous prosecution. Departmental prosecutions were started against 4 police men of whom 2 were discharged and 2 were under trial. Good work done during the year was rewarded in the case of 14 head constables and 84 constables to the value of Rs. 367. Two Inspectors were awarded each a good service entry. One Sub-Inspector of the British Police, one clerk of the District Police Office, Kottayam, and 4 members of the public were granted rewards to the extent of Rs. 65 for co-operation with the State police. The training of recruits was carried out in the school attached to the Head Quarters Office. The number of recruits under training was 174 of whom 119 were passed out and the remaining 55 continued to be under instruction at the end of the year.

3. The total number of true cases of grave crimes reported Crimes. during the past three years is shown below.

| Nature of the Crime.     | Number of cases. |       |       |
|--------------------------|------------------|-------|-------|
|                          | 1101             | 1102  | 1103  |
| Murder                   | 67               | 74    | 66    |
| Culpable Homicide        | 5                | 15    | 11    |
| Dacoity                  | 15               | 9     | 20    |
| Robbery                  | 58               | 70    | 82    |
| House-breaking and theft | 301              | 299   | 283   |
| Cattle theft             | 99               | 78    | 108   |
| Theft                    | 642              | 634   | 521   |
| Total                    | 1,187            | 1,179 | 1,091 |

It is satisfactory to note that the total number of grave crimes has been steadily decreasing during the past triennium. Cases of dacoity increased by 11, of robbery by 12, and of cattle theft by 30, while other cases decreased. In the case of murder, the motives which actuated the crime were the following :—

| <i>Motive or cause.</i> | <i>No. of cases.</i> |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Jealousy                | 20                   |
| Drink                   | 1                    |
| Property dispute        | 17                   |
| Other causes            | 28                   |

The implements used or methods adopted for the perpetration of the crime were :—

| <i>Nature of the implement.</i> | <i>No. of cases.</i> |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| Knife                           | 28                   |
| Chopper                         | 15                   |
| Pestle                          | 2                    |
| Plank                           | 1                    |
| Rope (Strangulation)            | 3                    |
| Drowning                        | 2                    |
| Hand                            | 1                    |
| Stick                           | 8                    |
| Poison                          | 1                    |
| Firearms                        | 1                    |
| Iron bar                        | 1                    |
| Sickle                          | 2                    |
| Other means                     | 1                    |

---

Total... 66

The cases of dacoity occurred in the taluks of Trivandrum, Chirayinkil, Quilon, Kunnatur, Thiruvella, Ambalapuzha, Pathanamthitta, Shertallai, Muvattupuzha, Kunnatnad, Parur, Thodupuzha and Meenachil, the largest number of cases being in Shertallai, viz., 4. Land disputes occasioned 41 cases of breaches of the peace, 80 cases of assault and 23 cases of grievous hurt, while the corresponding number of cases resulting from religious feuds was 4, 7 and 4 respectively. There were 577

cases of reported violence against 560 in 1102 and every taluk in the State had a share in these offences, the largest number being in the taluks of Kottayam and Changanachery. The value of property lost through grave crimes was Rs. 70,826 against Rs. 69,067, while property worth Rs. 28,878 or 41 per cent was recovered against 37 per cent in 1102. The total value of property lost through crime during the year rose from Rs. 74,158 to Rs. 78,880 and the value of property recovered also rose from Rs. 28,486 to Rs. 31,049 or from 38 per cent to 39 per cent. This is satisfactory compared with the much lower percentage in the adjoining districts of the Madras Presidency.

4. The total number of cognisable cases for disposal fell from 3,346 to 3,281. Of these, 951 were referred as false,

216 as undetectable and 61 as uninvestigated

*Investigation.*

under Section 139 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The number of cases pending investigation at the end of the year was 233. The number of cases charged during the year was 1,871. Although the percentage of detection rose from 56 to 61, the percentage of conviction fell from 52 to 32. An investigation by the Commissioner of Police has revealed the fact that a large number of cases are remitted to the Police by the Magistracy for investigation which are in fact outside the purview of the Police, as, for instance, slander, domestic differences, etc. Steps are being taken to minimise this misuse of the Police.

5. In the disposal of cases charged, the average duration rose from 74.5 to 81.3 days; in cases referred, from 57.9 to

64.5 days and in reports on undetected crimes from 40.5 to 56 days. The Commissioner of Police again complains that the delay instead of being minimised has been more prolonged than that for the previous year. As stated in the report for the previous year, the effects of magisterial delays must of necessity react seriously against public security and confidence and the question of application of correctives and of an improved system of recruitment for the subordinate Magistracy is engaging the attention of Government.

6. Thirteen offences in connection with currency were reported during the year of which three were in respect of coins and nine concerned British currency notes. The

*Counterfeiting* latter class of cases related to possession  
*Coins and Currency* and uttering and were offshoots of old cases.  
*Notes.* No fresh offence of counterfeiting currency

notes occurred. Including the pending cases of the previous year, 16 cases were charged, and of these 3 were convicted, 7 ended in acquittal and 6 were pending trial at the end of the year.

7. The total number of cases handled by the Prosecuting Inspectors increased from 973 to 980. While the percentage of successful prosecution fell from 67 to 61

*Miscellaneous.* in original cases, in appeals rose from 78 to 88. There were 8 cases of escape of prisoners from other police custody than from lock-ups. Of these, 6 persons were re-captured and the remaining 2 were at large at the close of the year. The policemen responsible for these escapes have been departmentally dealt with. The police arrested 3,256 persons of whom 709 were convicted. Of the total number of processes received for service, viz., 168,925, the police executed as many as 148,527 processes which represented 88 per cent of the total number. One of the noteworthy features of the department during the previous year was that every member of the police force was able to read and write. This satisfactory position was maintained during the year under report. The number of cases handled by the Criminal Intelligence Department was 12 or one less than the number for the previous

year. On the occasion of the strike of employees of the South Indian Railway  
*The Railway* the State Police maintained law and  
*Strike.* order at the railway stations within Travancore, patrolled the line, and took over from the British Indian Railway Police the duty of guarding running trains between Trivandrum and Shencotta. The satisfactory manner in which the Travancore police acquitted itself during the strike was acknowledged and appreciated by the Railway administration and by the Government of Madras. The thanks of Government

are due in this matter to Mr. Justus Daniell who acquitted himself with marked resourcefulness and tact in a very difficult situation.

8. The number of finger print slips received for search during the year fell from 1,060 to 970. Of these, 200 were identified.

9. With the rapid increase in the number of motor vehicles in the State the problem of how the traffic can be effectually controlled is becoming daily more and more pressing. The following statement presents the phenomenal increase in the number of motor vehicles:—

| Year. | No. of motor vehicles permitted to let or ply for hire. |              |       | No. of motor vehicles newly registered. |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------|-----------------------------------------|
|       | Heavy Buses.                                            | Light Buses. | Cars. |                                         |
| 1101  | 33                                                      | 458          | 51    | 439                                     |
| 1102  | 34                                                      | 563          | 98    | 438                                     |
| 1103  | ...                                                     | 793          | 181   | 596                                     |
| Total | 67                                                      | 1,814        | 330   | 1,473                                   |

The 34 heavy buses of 1102 were replaced by one ton light buses which have become very popular. The number of motor vehicles newly registered was 596 and exceeded that for the previous year by 158. The number of drivers' licenses issued was 5,549 or 2,384 more than the number for 1102. The total receipts under the Motor Vehicles Regulation and on account of fees for examination of motor buses amounted to Rs. 70,817. Overloading and exceeding the speed limit were the principal offences and these offences were effectively checked by consistent and unremitting efforts on the part of the Police to enforce the law. Constables deputed for traffic control were

properly instructed to discharge their duties with diligence and care. The total number of offences under the Motor Vehicles Regulation was 3,876 of which 3,871 were charged before courts and 5 dealt with departmentally. Of the former, 2,898 were convicted, 466 discharged and the remaining cases were pending trial. Of the latter, licenses were cancelled or suspended in 2 cases; no action was taken in 2 cases and one was pending disposal at the end of the year. Punishments were for the most part inadequate. Such cases generally come before Benches of Honorary Magistrates who seem to regard the offences as very venial. In view of the danger to life involved in offences against the Motor Vehicles Regulation, the Government hope that the Magistracy will realise their responsibility to safeguard the public by visiting deterrent punishment on the offender.

10. The District Superintendents of Police of Trivandrum and Quilon respectively continued to be in charge of the hackney carriage registration in those towns and the

*Hackney Carriages.* President of the Alleppey Municipality exercised the same powers in Alleppey.

The number of hackney carriages registered during the year fell from 494 to 422. The number of persons licensed to drive also fell from 491 to 373. The steady increase in motor transport every year explains the decrease in the old and slow methods of conveyance provided for by hackney carriages.

11. The receipts and expenditure of the Police Department during the past three years are shown below:—

|             | 1101     | 1102     | 1103     |
|-------------|----------|----------|----------|
|             | Rs.      | Rs.      | Rs.      |
| Receipts    | 41,201   | 60,891   | 81,911   |
| Expenditure | 5,83,653 | 5,67,006 | 5,92,901 |

The increased revenue was chiefly due to the increase under motor receipts and the rise in expenditure was mainly the result of the issue of full clothing to the constabulary. The burden of police protection upon the tax payer was only about As. 2 per head of population.

#### Army.

|                            |                                   |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>Commandant.</i>         | <i>Major G. F. Turner, M. C.</i>  |
| <i>Officer Commanding,</i> |                                   |
| <i>1st Battalion.</i>      | <i>Capt. J. F. A. Postance.</i>   |
| <i>" 2nd Battalion.</i>    | <i>Capt. A. A. Fraser Harris.</i> |

12. The Nayar Brigade consists of two battalions, each of which is under the command of a British Officer of the Indian Army, controlled by a Commandant who is also a British Officer of the rank of at least a Major. An artillery unit is also attached to the Brigade. The Brigade was inspected by His Excellency Field Marshall Sir William Birdwood, Commander-in-Chief in India, and was congratulated for their smartness and turn out. For the first time in the history of the Brigade, a "Trooping of the Colours" parade was carried out. It was done with precision and efficiency. The Brigade is armed with breach loading bored out Martini Henry Rifles the replacement of which with more effective weapons of precision and rapid fire is now under consideration.

13. The strength of the Nayar Brigade at the end of the year was 1,465 including the artillery unit of 30 men with 6 guns. The guns are used for saluting and time gun firing purposes only. The number of men recruited during the year was 79.

*Strength and Discipline.* Lectures on a variety of subjects connected with training, hygiene, brigade and regimental *esprit de corps* were delivered to the Indian Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers of the 1st Battalion. Physical training of the 1st Battalion received careful attention. The usual classes to instruct

recruits and trained soldiers in bayonet fighting were held for the use of the 1st battalion. Route marches of the men and officers of this battalion were regularly held. They had also systematic instruction on a variety of subjects such as musketry, landscape range, alarm scheme and signalling. The Commandant held a court of enquiry during the year and ordered 5 sepoy to be tried by Court Martial on a charge of conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline. The Court found one of the men not guilty and he was released. The other four were convicted and sentenced to varying terms of imprisonment. With the exception of the above the general conduct of the men of the Brigade was satisfactory.

14. The receipts and expenditure of the Military Department during the past three years are shown below :—

|                    | 1101     | 1102     | 1103     |
|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|
|                    | Rs.      | Rs.      | Rs.      |
| Receipts ... ..    | 1,923    | 1,330    | 1,175    |
| Expenditure ... .. | 5,38,570 | 5,41,249 | 5,52,219 |

The receipts decreased by Rs. 155 while the expenditure increased by Rs. 10,970.

#### Arms and Ammunition.

15. The number of licenses issued during the year for the import of fire arms, cartridges, detonators, dynamites, etc., was 143. Arms and ammunition were brought into the State by all the 143 licensees either as personal effects or as articles of trade. Ten export licenses were also issued for guns, rifles, etc. Licenses granted for the manufacture of arms and ammunition numbered 71 and those for sale 98. The total number

of licenses issued to persons to possess arms or ammunition and to go armed in the State was 5,778 and the amount levied in fees was Rs. 7,178. Under Regulation V of 1079, 11 licenses were issued for the possession and use of explosives for mining and blasting purposes. The number of shooting licenses issued under the Forest Regulation was 12.

#### JAILS.

##### The Central Prison.

*Superintendent.* Mr. M. Pothan, B. A.

16. There were at the beginning of the year under report 434 convicted, 24 undertrial and 14 civil prisoners. During the year, 578 convicted, 39 undertrial and  
*Strength.* 106 civil prisoners were admitted into the prison. The strength of the prison at the end of the year after releases and discharges under processes of law, was 401 convicted, 14 undertrial and 13 civil prisoners. Of these 428 prisoners, 423 were males and 5 females. The total daily average number of prisoners fell from 434 to 433.

17. The number of convicted prisoners who were admitted during the year was 578 of whom 572 were men. Of the male prisoners, 481 were for offences under the Travancore Penal Code and the rest for offences under other laws. These consisted of 391 Hindus, 85 Mahomedans and 96 Christians. Six of these were above 60 years of age, 84 between 40 and 60 years and 482 between 16 and 40 years. Those who were able to read and write numbered 204; 13 were able to read only and 355 were illiterate. All the six female convicted prisoners, five of whom were Hindus and the other a Christian, were illiterate. Four of these females were below 40 years of age and married and 2 were above 40

years of age and were widows. Four of them were guilty of offences under the Travancore Penal Code and the other two under other laws. The largest number of convicts came from the Neyyattinkara taluk, followed by Trivandrum, Chirayinkil and Changanachery. Ten convicts consisting of 9 males and 1 female, were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for life, while the other convicts were undergoing varying terms of imprisonment. Of the 578 convicts who were admitted into the Central Prison during the year, 178 had previous convictions and the majority had no definite occupation. The average daily strength of convicts in the Central Prison rose from 407 to 409.

18. No capital sentences were passed during the year and there was therefore no case of execution.

*Execution and* There was also no case of escape or  
*Escape.* attempt at escape among the prisoners.

19. No case of serious offence occurred which necessitated the award of corporal punishment. There were 100 cases of jail offences recorded during the year.

*Discipline and* They related to remissness in work, use of  
*Conduct.* prohibited articles, quarrel, assault, insubordination and other breaches of jail discipline. The offenders were all men. Separate cellular and solitary confinement was awarded in 12 cases; penal diet with solitary confinement in 1 case and miscellaneous punishments in the remaining cases. As a result of the working of the remission system, 57 convicts were released during the year, the maximum remission and gratuity earned being 1 year and 11 months and Rs. 28-11-0 respectively by a convict warder. Religious and moral education continued to be imparted to the male prisoners by honorary workers. That elementary education of adolescent convicts made satisfactory progress during the year was shown by the circumstance that the strength of the classes for casuals and for habituals was 90 and that 39 of these who were illiterate on admission exhibited such an aptitude for study that they were able to read and write a few months after admission.

20. Amongst the prisoners admitted during the year, one was in bad health and 47 were in indifferent health. The number of prisoners admitted into the

*Disease and Mortality.* hospital rose from 34 to 45 and the daily average number of the sick also rose from 1 to 2. The percentage of the average sick to the average strength was '52 against '31 in 1102. The number of deaths fell from 8 to 7. Three of these were suffering from bowel complaints and the rest from pneumonia, tubercle of the lungs, enteric fever and diseases of the heart respectively. In some of these cases, the prisoners were in bad or indifferent health at the time of admission and some of them habituals. There was no case of release on medical grounds.

21. The cost per head under dieting charges rose from Rs. 78 to Rs. 85, while the corresponding

*Cost of Maintenance.* cost on account of hospital charges fell from Rs. 16 to Rs. 13 and that for clothing and bedding rose from Rs. 11-3-9 to Rs. 11-19-14.

22. The receipts and expenditure of the institution during the past three years are shown below :—

*Receipts and Expenditure.*

|             |                  | 1101   | 1102   | 1103     |
|-------------|------------------|--------|--------|----------|
|             |                  | Rs.    | Rs.    | Rs.      |
| Receipts    | Jail Manufacture | 17,518 | 20,626 | 26,044   |
|             | Miscellaneous    | 2,358  | 1,845  | 2,023    |
| Total       |                  | 19,876 | 22,471 | 28,067   |
| Expenditure |                  | 94,125 | 98,390 | 1,01,472 |

The receipts from jail manufacture showed a steady increase during the past three years and this satisfactory feature was in

no small measure due to the large orders placed by the several departments particularly the Medical Department which purchased all the clothing and bedding required for the department from the Central Prison. With the progressive increase in the receipts of the institution, the expenditure too exhibited this tendency as a result of the inevitable necessity for efficient control and management.

#### Lock-Ups.

23. Persons sentenced to imprisonment for a month or for a less period by the criminal courts in the mofussil are confined in the station lock-ups, while those sentenced to longer terms by such courts and those sentenced to imprisonment by the criminal courts at Trivandrum, are sent to the Central Prison. The number of prisoners confined in the station lock-ups during the year was 10,434. This included convicted and under-trial prisoners.

#### Registration.

*Director.*

*Mr. K. Venkata Rao.*

24. The number of District Registry offices and of permanent Sub-Registry offices remained the same as in the previous year, viz., 3 and 77 respectively. The increasing congestion of work in a few heavily worked offices necessitated the creation of an additional number of temporary Sub-Registry offices. The number of such temporary offices rose from 5 to 13.

25. The total number of documents presented for registration increased from 388,840 to 436,644 or by 47,804. Including the 916 documents which were

*Number of Documents.*

pending registration at the end of the previous year, the total number of documents dealt with during the year was 437,560 of which 437,450 were registered, 64 refused registration and 14 returned unregistered at the request of the parties concerned.

The number of documents pending disposal was 32. The percentage of documents registered on the day of presentation was 98.10 against 98.14 in 1102.

26. The aggregate value of registered transactions increased from Rs. 15.54 crores to Rs. 15.56 crores or by .1 per cent.

The value of transactions relating to  
*Value of Docu-* immovable property decreased from  
*ments.* Rs. 15.27 crores to Rs. 15.25 crores. The

average value of a document relating to immovable property decreased from Rs. 414 to Rs. 367. The average value of a registered document fell from Rs. 400 to Rs. 356. The average number of registrations for an office rose from 4,730 to 4,861 or by 131 documents although the number of Sub-Registry offices increased by 8 during the year.

27. Of the total transactions 95.4 per cent of the documents related to immovable property, against 95.8 in 1102. Of these,

*Classes of Docu-* gifts formed 1 per cent, sales 20 per cent,  
*ments.* mortgage 43 per cent, perpetual leases 2 per cent, leases of other kinds 8 per cent and miscellaneous 26 per cent. The total number of sale deeds was 87,049 for Rs. 3.62 crores. The number of partition deeds under the Nair Regulation since the promulgation of that Regulation was 27,064 of the total value of Rs. 4.08 crores. The corresponding figures in respect of Ezhava and Nanjinad Vellala partitions under the Ezhava and Nanjinad Vellala Regulations were 8,888 for Rs. 1.15 crores and 558 for Rs. 28.39 lakhs. Money bonds formed 16 per cent of the transactions in moveable property. The number of wills presented for registration during the year increased from 1,037 to 1,213. The majority of the testators were Nairs (550), followed by Christians (347), Ezhavas (141), Brahmins (44), Mahomedans (27) and other classes (104). Forty five sealed covers containing wills were deposited with the District Registrars against 40 in the previous year. The number of unopened covers remaining in deposit at the end of the year was 277 of which 129 belonged to Nairs, 90 to Christians, 22 to Brahmins, 21 to Ezhavas, 4 to Mahomedans and 11 to other classes.

28. The number of *chitties*\* registered during the year increased from 1,445 to 1,656 or by 211. The total number of *chitties* registered since the enactment of the Chitties Regulation, III of 1094, was 10,372 of which 1,078 terminated at the end of 1102 and 562 in 1103. At the close of the year under report, 8,732 *chitties* were being conducted for a total capital of Rs. 221 lakhs. The department instituted 13 prosecutions for offences under the Chitties Regulation. In 9 of these cases, the accused were convicted and the remaining 4 cases were pending disposal.

29. The receipts and expenditure of the Registration Department during the past three years are shown below :—

|             | 1101     | 1102     | 1103     |
|-------------|----------|----------|----------|
|             | Rs.      | Rs.      | Rs.      |
| Receipts    | 8,29,401 | 8,70,917 | 9,65,213 |
| Expenditure | 2,58,497 | 2,73,073 | 2,87,248 |

In Chapter III the amount of revenue under Registration includes fees for registering Joint Stock Companies and the figure under expenditure includes the expenditure incurred on account of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and his office. These have been excluded from the above statement and are separately shown in Chapter VIII. The receipts and expenditure increased by Rs. 94,296 and Rs. 14,175 respectively. The net receipts

\* A "chitty" means a transaction by which one or more persons called the *foreman* or *foremen* enter into an agreement with a number of persons that every one of the contracting parties shall subscribe a certain amount of money or quantity of grain by periodical instalments for a certain definite period and that each in his turn, as determined by lot or by auction or in such other manner as may be provided for in the *rules* shall be entitled to the "prize amount."

of the department rose from Rs. 5,97,844 to Rs. 6,77,965 or by Rs. 80,121. While the receipts increased by 14 per cent during the last triennium, the expenditure rose by only 10 per cent during the same period.

#### Weights and Measures.

30. The receipts from the fees realised during the year for stamping weights and measures amounted to Rs. 1,845 against Rs. 2,170 in 1102. The expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 511 against Rs. 480 in the previous year.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### PRODUCTION AND INDUSTRY.

#### Season and Rainfall.

The year witnessed an unusual failure of rain in all parts of the State. The rainfall at the Trivandrum Observatory was 46 inches, the lowest on record since 1076 M. E., the average being 66.50. There has been a steady diminution in the average rainfall for the whole State during the past three years. The average which was 102 inches in 1101 fell to 89 inches in 1102 and went further down to 74 inches in the year under report. The variation was the greatest in the Devicolum Division for the average for 1103 fell from 116 to 90 inches. The failure of the North-East Monsoon affected parts of South Travancore more than other places in the State. The Kumbhom crop suffered in Trivandrum, Neyyattinkara and Vilavancode taluks. The lands further south had the benefit of Kodayar irrigation water but they yielded below the normal as a result of unfavourable weather conditions. In Central and North Travancore, there was no appreciable deficiency in the North-East Monsoon. The most striking feature of the rainfall in the year was the failure of the South-West Monsoon, particularly south of Quilon. The even distribution of rain in Central and North Travancore was on the whole favourable to *punja* cultivation.

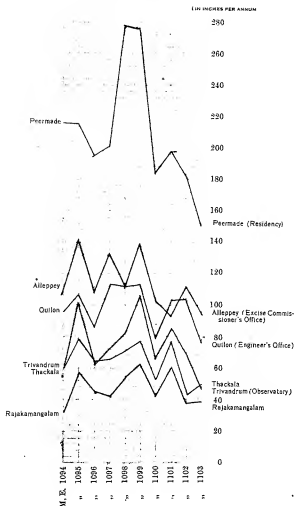
#### Agriculture and Fisheries.

*Director.* Rao Sahib N. Kanjan Pillai, M. A.,  
B. Sc., Ph. D.

2. The biological analysis of the soils of *punja* lands had shown that practically no nitrification took place in those soils and that the nitrogen required for the growth of the plant was absorbed as ammonia and not as nitrate. The condition of *punja* lands being anaerobic for the major

*Biological Analysis of Soils.*

# RAINFALL CHART



Litho, T. A. P. Works, Trivandrum.

part of the year, the formation of nitrates is almost an impossibility. A preliminary investigation of *viruppu* soils revealed that unlike in the *punja* soils nitrates were formed during the interval between two cultivations when the land was dry, that nitrates completely disappeared during the growth of the crop, that nitrates were formed again after harvest, and that as in *punja* soils, the total quantity of nitrogen increased during the growth of the crop. The different aspects of the nitrogen problem of *punja* and *viruppu* lands are being further investigated with a view to determine the course of changes which take place in the soil nitrogen and to work out the nitrogen balance.

3. *Kari* lands are in the Ambalapuzha taluk, and lie in a region bordering the backwaters, where a vast forest was burnt down in pre-historic times. The soil is

*Reclamation of black.* The chief defects of the *kari* lands are the presence of organic acids and other toxic substances and the absence of phosphoric acid in the soil. The best methods of removing acidity and neutralising toxic substances have been found to be proper tillage and application of lime. The Kari Experimental Station at Porakad has tried these methods with satisfactory results. The experiments have demonstrated the advantages of liming *kari* lands and the possibility of reclaiming such lands by this process. The waste lands at Porakad, which until recently nobody wanted even for a nominal price, are being taken up on payment of prices varying from Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 per acre and brought under paddy cultivation. Experiments are proposed to be conducted with different kinds of phosphatic manures so as to decide the form in which phosphoric acid should be supplied to the soil and the best lime for its application.

4. The experiment which was started in the previous year for the reclamation of alkaline soils by the application of calcium chloride proved that by the application of

*Reclamation of Alkali Soils.* calcium chloride at the rate of one ton per acre alkalinity in the soil was reduced and that the treated plot yielded more paddy

than the control plot. The experiment was however continued to ascertain whether the improvement is permanent or only transitory and whether the method is economical. The further experiment of treating alkaline land with sulphur was continued to decide whether the method is economically feasible or not.

5. The department carried on demonstrations and other forms of propaganda to make the ryots realise the scope for

#### *Manures.*

improving the methods of collecting and preserving cattle manure. The activities of the department resulted in popularising fish manure and laurel and Maroti oil cakes, but the competition of outside buyers inflates prices of these manures to such an extent that they go beyond the slender means of local cultivators and that therefore a large portion of these manures is still exported from the country. Artificial farm yard manure prepared with an emulsion of farm yard manure as starter was found to be as satisfactory as the one prepared with ammonium sulphate. An addition of a small quantity of bone meal to the emulsion of farm yard manure not only increased the phosphoric acid content of the final product but accelerated the rate of decomposition of the waste material. Artificial farm yard manure can be made out of any waste product which is usually thrown away as useless and has been found to be one of the best forms of organic manure to improve the texture and quality of poor laterite soils and to be applied to such exhausting crops as banana, tapioca and chenai. From experiments conducted in the laboratory, it was found that coir dust underwent disintegration when a cellulose decomposing bacteria and fungi were added to it and kept for about three months. If the method proves successful on a larger scale, the conversion of coir dust which is a by-product of the coir yarn industry into manure will become feasible. Fermented green manure prepared from water weeds, algae and green leaves was found to be a good substitute for farm yard manure and was more easily absorbed than fresh green leaves. The experiment conducted in the previous year on the disintegration of bones by treatment with sulphur and sulphur oxidising bacteria was continued on a larger scale and the result was that 63 per cent of the insoluble phosphoric acid was

rendered soluble after six months. It is proposed to make a large quantity of this manure and to try its effects on crops. A biological examination of the manure prepared out of the spent-wash available in the Government distillery at Nagercoil was being carried out to determine its efficacy as a manure. The extensive demonstrations carried out by the department have made artificial manures such as ammonium sulphate and superphosphate very popular for the cultivation of paddy, coconut and sugarcane. These artificial manures are used merely to supplement an initial application of organic manures. The practice has long been for the department to stock manures in Government depots and sell them to ryots at cost price. With the organisation of private enterprise, the department is gradually withdrawing from the field and is encouraging private persons, Co-operative Societies and Joint Stock Companies to carry on the business for the benefit of local ryots.

6. The ryots have begun to appreciate in a very large measure the use of the Meston and the climax ploughs and about 465 ploughs were made and sold by local blacksmiths after the model of the Meston plough. The use of the Fordson Tractor was demonstrated in the Paddy Farm at Nagercoil; the double roller cane-crushing mill at Alwaye; and the Evinrude pump of 2 H. P. worked on petrol at Muvattupuzha and Kunnatnad.

*Agricultural  
Implements and  
Machinery.*

*Crops.*

7. Local production of paddy fell far below the average output as a result of the abnormal seasonal conditions which prevailed during the year. Hence there was a large increase in the import of paddy. A special fertiliser prepared by the department out of fish refuse, oil cakes and other locally available stuffs produced better yield of paddy than farm-yard manure and fish manure. Experiments continued for a series of years have proved that of oil cakes, groundnut cake is the best for paddy, followed by castor cake, neem cake and laurel cake. The experiments have proved that the best method of manuring paddy is to apply some organic

*Paddy.*

manure like cattle dung or green leaf, and incorporate it into the soil before sowing and then top-dress the crop with ammonium sulphate and superphosphate. Periodical application of lime is also essential for the maintenance of the fertility of the soil. Experiments with the use of manures like amophos (containing ammonia and phosphoric acid) and urea were also being carried on by the department. The department was carrying on during the past decade experiments relating to the economic transplantation of paddy. The results of the experiments have shown that singles transplanted 6 inches apart gave the best yield. The trial of different varieties of short duration paddy was continued in the Demonstration Farm at Nagercoil. The practice of conducting demonstrations in private lands of new methods of cultivation and improved types of seeds, manures and implements was carried on as in the previous year. The pests which attacked paddy consisted of the rice swarming caterpillar, the stemborer and the rice hispa and these were successfully combated and controlled.

8. Experiments conducted in the Experimental Farm at Trivandrum have shown that the use of a manure mixture consisting of ash, oil cake, bone meal and common salt

*Cocoanut.* had been productive of very satisfactory results. Experiments were also continued

with artificial manures like superphosphate, muriate of potash, sulphate of ammonia, lime and common salt, both individually and in mixtures. Experiments conducted so far have shown that in soils fairly rich in organic matter a mixture of superphosphate, sodium nitrate and kainit is a suitable manure for the cocoanut palm. In sandy soils a mixture of organic manure and artificials is found to be better than either applied alone. The characters of the different varieties of the cocoanut palm were being studied in the cocoanut farm at Alleppey. Demonstrations on proper tillage of the soil, application of lime to the soil, use of organic and artificial manures in cocoanut gardens were carried out in the Government farms at Vaikam, Alleppey and Oachira. As in the case of paddy, improvements in the cultivation of cocoanut were demonstrated on gardens belonging to the ryots also. The insect pests which attacked the cocoanut palm during the year were :—

(1) *Nephantis Derinopa*. The affected leaves were cut and burnt to check its spread.

(2) Another unidentified insect which ate away the leaf of coconut palm appeared in Shertallai and was controlled by spraying with Paris Green.

(3) *The Red Palm Weevil*. The affected parts were cut open, the grubs were removed from inside and the hole closed with a mixture of sand and tar.

(4) *Fungus diseases*. The coconut palm disease is not a single disease but a conglomeration of diseases affecting different parts of the palm. Seven diseases have already been noticed, one attacking the bud, one the developing leaves, two the mature leaves, one the inflorescence, one the stem and another the roots. Several of these diseases occur simultaneously on the same palm and hence arises the difficulty of prescribing specific methods of eradicating them.

(5) *Bud Rot*. This starts at the base of one of the inner leaves and works its way inwards in a direct course until it reaches the tender tissues of the cabbage. Palms attacked by this disease could be saved in its initial stages by scooping out the rotted tissue around the growing point, filling the cavity with a mixture of common salt and ash and covering the bud with an earthen pot.

(6) *Leaf Rot*. This attacks the superficial parts of the developing leaves. The best method of dealing with it is to cut back the infected leaves well below the lowest point of infection and paint the cut surface with some preservative like Bordeaux paste.

(7) *Leaf Blight*. This attacks older leaves and could be prevented by proper cultivation and manuring of the soil.

(8) *Nut-fall*. This attacks the flowers and tender nuts and causes them to rot and drop. This can be controlled by spraying with one per cent Bordeaux mixture and by manurial treatment of the soil.

(9) *Stem Bleeding Disease*. This is more widely distributed than the other diseases and is caused by a fungus

which gains access into the inner part of the stem through wounds and cracks on the rind and spreads upwards through the soft tissues. The characteristic symptom of the disease is the discolouration of the stem. The only remedy consists in the excision of the rotted and rotten parts and protection of the healthy tissues by a coating of hot tar.

(10) *Root Disease*. This is being investigated by the mycologist. The progress of the disease is however arrested by the selection and propagation of disease resistant varieties of coconut and also by the popularisation of scientific methods of cultivation and manuring to improve the general condition and the disease resisting power of the infected palms.

9. Different varieties of pepper vine were being experimented within the Pepper Farm at Koni. Teak, Murikku and Peshu have been proved to be the best

*Pepper.*

standards for growing the pepper vine. A wilt disease of pepper vine which is of the nature of a stump rot was investigated. The removal and destruction of all decaying stems and the admission of sufficient light and air into the plantations have been found to be the best means of preventing the disease.

10. The advantage of using special manures like a mixture of oilcake, prawnskin and ash for tapioca was successfully demonstrated on ryots' lands. The demon-

*Tapioca.*

strations proved beyond doubt that the use of this manure yielded far better plots than the use of the ordinary manure of cattle dung and ash.

11. A manurial demonstration conducted by the department showed that the use of special manures

*Ginger.*

increased the yield of green ginger.

12. The advantage of wider spacing in planting setts of sugarcane was demonstrated in the Thiruvella taluk. Besides the gain from the saving of setts, wider

*Sugarcane.*

spacing permitted the use of animal power and improved implements for interculture which made it possible for more efficient work being turned out

at less cost. The effect of top-dressing the sugarcane crop with nitrogenous manures was also demonstrated by the department.

13. Five varieties of *chulam* were tried in the farm at Puliyara. The manurial experiments conducted in the farm showed that farm-yard manure produced the best

*Chulam.* yield. The advantages of seed selection and of pickling the seed in copper sulphate were demonstrated.

14. Guinea grass and Napier grass have been found to be specially suited to this country and their cultivation was encouraged by the free distribution of stools.

*Fodder Grass.* Three varieties of grass, namely, Paspalam, buffalo grass and carpet grass were got down from Ceylon and were cultivated experimentally. The first variety grew well and it is proposed to extend the cultivation of this variety.

15. The Cattle Farm at Trivandrum is devoted to the breeding of milch cows and the Cattle Farm at Easanthimangalam to the improvement of draught oxen.

*Cattle Breeding.* The former consists of pure Scindhi cows and bulls and a few local cows, while the latter contains pure Kangayam and Hallegarh cows and bulls and some local cows. The breeding operations in both farms aim at the production of good bulls of pure breeds for distribution and the grading of local cows with pure bred bulls. The farm at Trivandrum contained at the end of the year 32 cows, 7 bulls, 45 young stock, 2 buffaloes and 6 plough cattle, while the strength of the herd in the Easanthimangalam farm was 13 cows, 4 heifers, 8 bulls and 10 young stock. Calves mostly of Scindhi breed were sold to the public for breeding purposes. The stud bulls and buffaloes maintained by the department at important centres served 284 cows and 54 she-buffaloes during the year. The system of awarding grants to private individuals and co-operative societies for the maintenance of bulls was continued and 19 persons and 2 societies were given grants during the year.

16. A cattle census of the town of Trivandrum was taken and the sources of milk supply were investigated by the department with a view to see what improvements were possible and how they could be effected.

*Milk supply in*      The census showed that the town contained  
*Trivandrum*      1,478 milch cows, 615 dry cows, 67 bulls,  
*Town.*              427 milch buffaloes, 79 dry buffaloes, 5

buffalo bulls and 1,746 young stock. The daily consumption of milk was estimated to be 2,644 edangalies of which 2,392 were produced in the town itself and 252 edangalies came from the suburbs. The average daily consumption of milk per head of population was barely one-seventh of a nali or 4 gallons per head per year while the corresponding figure in large cities like Bombay and Calcutta was seven to eight gallons. The problem of an adequate supply of unadulterated milk for the town can only be solved by the work of milk production and trade being organised on a co-operative basis and by improving the milking quality of the cows. The problem has to be tackled by the municipality in co-operation with the Department of Agriculture.

17. The Poultry Farm at Trivandrum reared suitable foreign breeds, such as White Leghorn, White Wyandotte, Light Sussex and Rhode Island Red. Eggs

*Poultry Farm-*      and chickens of superior breeds were supplied to the people at concessional rates  
*ing.*                      so as to encourage poultry farming. The poultry breeders' co-operative societies in Trivandrum were encouraged and assisted by the department to extend their activities.

18. The department carried on propaganda in a number of villages to popularise bee-keeping as a spare time occupation amongst the cultivators. Twenty-seven new apiaries were started during the year.

19. Silk worm rearing was conducted in the Silk Farm at Trivandrum where there were 5 acres of mulberry. The area of mulberry cultivation in the farm at Neduvankad remained the same, viz., 8 acres. A few crops of silk worms were

*Sericulture.*

raised in the Trivandrum farm and they yielded 297<sup>1</sup> lbs. of cocoons. These were reeled and woven into silk sarees and shirting cloth for which there was good demand.

20. The rug and carpet weaving school attached to the Silk Farm continued to function as in the previous year. Forty boys

*Woollen  
Industry.*

had so far been trained in the school and several of them were carrying on the industry in their homes with financial aid from Government.

21. There were two agricultural schools, one at Alwaye and the other at Kottarakara. The school at Kottarakara was newly opened during the year. The third

*Agricultural  
Education  
and Publication.*

batch of students in the Alwaye school completed their course. In the school at Kottarakara all the students 32 in number

were allowed to work for wages on the farm attached to the school outside class hours and they were able to earn Rs. 4 to Rs. 5 each per mensem. Tuition was free. A third school at Koni was sanctioned during the year and will be opened during the current year. In the agricultural colony at Koni, 300 acres of uncultivated land were divided into 30 plots of 10 acres each and 17 plots were assigned to boys trained in the school at Alwaye. These boys have settled down there and are cultivating paddy, tapioca, banana, pepper, rubber and various other crops on scientific lines. In regard to agricultural publications, the department published twelve leaflets and distributed them to the public.

22. Taluk agricultural conferences were held during the year in 8 taluk centres. At these conferences several subjects

*Agricultural  
Conferences.*

connected with local agricultural needs were discussed, viz., more roads and more irrigation facilities, more veterinary hospitals and demonstration farms.

23. Mr. G. Krishna Pillai, Veterinary Assistant to the Director, continued to be in charge of the veterinary section of the department. The number of veterinary

*Veterinary.*

institutions remained the same as in the previous year, viz., 5 hospitals and

7 dispensaries. This works out on an average to one institution for every 86,000 animals scattered over an area of 538 square miles. The number of cases treated in these institutions rose from 12,653 to 14,561. The number of operations performed was 2,376 against 3,199 in 1102. The veterinary officers treated 29 elephants of which 2 died and the rest were discharged cured. Rinderpest, anthrax, foot and mouth disease and haemorrhagic septicemia broke out during the year and they were successfully dealt with and controlled. The number of grant-in-aid veterinary institutions increased from 4 to 5 and 5,066 cases were treated in these institutions.

#### Fisheries.

24. Sea fishing was poorer during the year than in the previous year. The prices of fish oil and fish guano went up. Prawn fishing was satisfactory in Central Travancore.

The failure of the monsoons resulted in poor backwater fishing.

25. The investigation of the life-history and habits of the important backwater fishes was continued. An exhaustive collection of the fauna of the Vembanad

*Piscultural Experiments.*

backwater was made and it was found that the cause of the poor fisheries in the lake was due to the very small quantities of the plankton food available there. Conditions influencing the migration of sardines and the appearance of shoals of different ages in inshore waters were further studied. Experiments were conducted on the preparation of trepang (sea cucumber) and the drying of cuttle fish for the market. An investigation into the causes of cured ribbon fish turning pink in storage was conducted during the year.

26. There were 10 fish curing yards in the State against 9 in the previous year. The quantity of fish

*Fish Curing Yards.*

cured was 32,855 maunds against 20,125 maunds in 1102.

27. The total number of shank shells collected by the lessee of shank fisheries during the year rose from *Shank Fisheries*. 17,750 to 24,500 and the amount of royalty realised by Government also rose from Rs. 444 to Rs. 613.

28. The four fishery schools managed by the department continued to work satisfactorily. The strength of the schools

*Education of Fishermen.* fell from 304 to 263. One Araya young man is undergoing training at Government cost in the fishery school at Tanur and another in the Technological Institute at Trivandrum for appointment as instructors in a special school for fishermen proposed to be opened at Alleppey.

29. There were 42 co-operative societies and 12 Karayogams among Valans. Fish markets were conducted by 8 of

*Co-operation among Fishermen.* these societies. Applications for loans for the purchase of fishing implements received priority of consideration. The Vala Samudaya Seva Samithi which is a union of all the co-operative societies and Karayogams of Valans was doing good work for the betterment of the socio-economic conditions of the community. All these activities had the active sympathy, support and guidance of the officers of the department.

30. The year witnessed further co-ordination of activities between the Departments of Agriculture and Co-operative Societies for the uplift of the rural population.

*Agricultural Co-operation.* Agricultural improvements were introduced through co-operative societies. Improved methods of cultivation were demonstrated on lands selected by co-operative societies. Departmental manures were sold through the agency of such societies. Maintenance grants were awarded to societies for stud bulls.

31. The receipts and expenditure of the department during the past three years are detailed

*Receipts and below :—*  
*Expenditure.*

|              |                                       | 1101     | 1102     | 1103     |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
|              |                                       | Rs.      | Rs.      | Rs.      |
| Receipts.    | Agricultural receipts                 | 15,585   | 16,982   | 22,679   |
|              | Veterinary Hospital                   |          |          |          |
|              | Post                                  | 316      | 1,326    | 2,549    |
|              | Fishery receipts                      | 21,152   | 22,146   | 15,633   |
|              | Sale of publications                  | ..       | 26       | ..       |
| Total        |                                       | 37,053   | 40,489   | 41,861   |
| Expenditure. | Director                              | 44,443   | 43,838   | 45,467   |
|              | Farms and Depots                      | 78,327   | 88,264   | 88,759   |
|              | Agricultural School                   | 5,867    | 11,303   | 6,376    |
|              | Sericulture                           | 4,045    | 4,685    | 4,291    |
|              | Apiculture                            | 1,169    | 1,120    | 1,143    |
|              | Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries | 31,065   | 32,639   | 39,739   |
|              | Grants-in-aid to Veterinary Vaidyans  | 648      | 618      | 869      |
|              | Stipends                              | ..       | ..       | 100      |
|              | Fisheries                             | 21,016   | 23,520   | 31,908   |
|              | Total                                 | 1,66,574 | 2,06,734 | 2,12,051 |

The net expenditure of the department rose from Rs. 1,65,245 to Rs. 1,70,790 or by Rs. 5,545.

## INDUSTRIES AND GEOLOGY.

## Minerals.

*Director.* Mr. I. C. Chacko, B. A., B. Sc.

32. There were no applications for mining leases for consideration during the year. A prospecting license was, however, granted for ilmenite. Investigation was continued on the lime stone bed which was discovered at Nedumgolam at a depth of 24½ feet. A new mining lease in cancellation of the old was granted since the close of the year to the Travancore Minerals Company Ltd., for working monazite, zircon and ilmenite.

*Prospecting  
Licenses and  
Mining Leases.*

33. The underground water survey which was started in the previous year was continued. Wells 261 in number, in the several *pakhithies* of the Tovala and Agastiswaram taluks were examined and the necessary observations recorded. Of these wells, only 112 contained fresh water and the water in the remaining wells was alkaline.

*Underground  
Water Survey.*

34. Monazite, zircon and ilmenite were the only minerals produced in the country. The export of these showed some improvement. The export of monazite increased from 451 tons to 559 tons, zircon from 756 tons to 1,061 tons and ilmenite from 9,335 tons to 19,950 tons.

*Mineral Production.*

## Industries.

35. Experiments were continued to refine Titanium White and to remove the persistent brown tint which it acquires on calcination. The investigation of the possibilities of utilising lignite as a source of power was carried on still further. The experiments showed that "montan" wax which is extracted by appropriate solvents from lignite and which is chiefly used in the manufacture of polishes and as an insulating material is present

*Industrial  
Research  
Laboratory.*

only in small quantities in the local samples of the mineral compared with the yield from some foreign specimens. Fifty gallons of blue black writing fluid was supplied from the laboratory for Government use. Experiments were carried on to find a mixture without lead which will give a white glaze to the stoneware manufactured in the School of Arts. The brines used for crystallisation of salt in the salt factories in the State were examined with a view to study the depositions at various concentrations of sodium chloride crystals. Some experimental work was done with the electroplating equipment. The essential oil from cuscus roots was distilled and examined. It was found that the yield of oil from local roots was poor and that therefore the Travancore produce can hardly compete with success with the oil already in the market. Various analyses particularly of water and alcohol, were done in the laboratory on behalf of other Government departments. A bulletin embodying the results of the investigations on the preservation of ginger in syrup, the manufacture of candied ginger, sweets, etc., was prepared for publication.

36. The tannery confined its attention solely to the production of such varieties of leather as can be sold locally, *viz.*, buffalo leathers, both bark tanned and chrome tanned. Leather to the value of Rs. 2,712 was tanned and sold to the public. The barks used were those of Konna and Thampakam either in mixture or separately. The barks of Thembavu and Pezhu were also experimented upon. The total cost of running the tannery was Rs. 15,434 of which salaries and establishment absorbed Rs. 5,933. The capital outlay on the tannery amounted to Rs. 2,067.

37. The Central Technological Institute demonstrated its work partly by executing orders from other Government departments and partly by weaving cloth for sale to the public. Cotton, silk and artificial silk fabrics were manufactured to the total value of Rs. 1,513 and the value of articles sold amounted to Rs. 539. The total expenditure on the textile branch up to the

end of the year was Rs. 32,345 of which salaries and establishment absorbed Rs. 20,510. The capital outlay on this branch amounted to Rs. 11,943. The itinerant weaving parties visited a few centres like Palode to popularise the weaving industry among the poor and backward classes some of whom were given free gifts of looms with accessories to enable deserving young men amongst them to start in life as weavers. Three who underwent training at Palode were given a loom each with accessories. The spinning instructors conducted demonstrations in *charḡa* spinning at various centres in the State.

38. The boring operations for the investigation of Quilon lime stone started in the previous year were continued with the result that traces of lime stone were discovered at a depth of 34 feet at Paravoor and at less depth near Nedumgolam. The Industrial Engineering. The Industrial Engineer, who was also the Chief Boiler Inspector, inspected 92 boilers working in the State.

39. In addition to the weaving industry encouraged by the itinerant weaving parties in backward localities amongst the poorer classes, attempts were also made to encourage the lace industry in the State by finding out new markets for Travancore lace which suffered by the competition of Chinese lace in European markets. Under the scheme for the encouragement of bell-metal work through co-operative societies, an industrial loan of Rs. 1,000 was granted to one society.

#### Factory Industries.

- \* 40. The Malabar Match Manufacturing Company which was reconstructed in the previous year is expected to get their machinery and start work during the current year. The South Indian Match Factory continued operations during the year and manufactured 49,546 gross of matches. The match factory belonging to Messrs. Peter & Sons, Alleppey, worked satisfactorily during the year and produced 2,000 gross

of matches. The Pioneer Match Works established at Katakavur by Mr. Moulvi Abdul Kadhur started work during the year and the total output of matches was 1,250 gross.

41. The Travancore Sugars Ltd., an enterprise aided by Government, started work during the year.  
*Sugar Manufacture.*

#### Technical and Industrial Education.

42. Students were taught drawing, carving, smithery and pottery in the School of Arts. Amongst the students there were 22 stipendiaries and 8 non-stipendiaries. Of the latter 5 were girls. Sixty three candidates appeared for the Madras Government Technical Examinations and 48 passed. Pottery articles were continued to be manufactured and sold in the institution. Private workmen were encouraged to exhibit their articles for sale in the show room. Toy making was introduced during the year as one of the subjects of study in the school.

43. The strength of the school at the beginning of the year was 43, 11 in the Senior Civil Overseers' class, 12 in the Junior Civil Overseers' class, 2 in the Senior Mechanical Overseers' class, 8 in the Junior Mechanical Overseers' class and 12 in the Maistries' class. In the annual examinations, 11 in the Senior Overseers' class, 13 in the Junior class, 6 in the Mechanical Overseers' class and 8 in the Maistries' class, passed. Most of the students who passed were entertained in the work establishment staff of the Public Works Department.

44. There were 26 students on the rolls of the Carpentry and Smithery School at Quilon. The new admissions in the first year course consisted of 5 Kammalas, 3 Christians, 2 Ezhavas, 1 Mahomedan and 1 Nair. Six students appeared for the final examination and 4 came out successful. The school manufactured during the year articles of furniture to the value of Rs. 993,

45. The strength of the school was 19 of whom 17 sat for the annual examination and 10 were promoted to the higher classes. The school imparted instruction

*S. M. R. V. Technical Institute.* in the theory and practice of weaving and gave demonstrations in warping and sizing. Lessons in free hand and model drawing and scale drawing of looms were also given

to the students.

46. The number of students on the rolls of the school at the end of the year was 113 of whom 4 were girls. The subjects taught comprised type-writing,

*School of Commerce.* short-hand, book-keeping, theory and practice of commerce, banking, commercial geography and calculations by comptometer.

The results of the students who appeared for the Madras Government Technical Examinations were not as satisfactory as in 1102. The school hostel which was opened in the previous year was continued and there were 12 students residing in it at the end of the year.

47. There were 51 aided and 3 un-aided industrial schools at the end of the year. The strength of the aided schools was 1,163. The largest number of aided

*Industrial Schools.* schools was in the Trivandrum Division, viz., 26. The subjects taught in these schools were cotton weaving, drawing, painting, screwpine mat weaving, carpentry and smithery. More than 45 schools taught cotton weaving alone. The total grant given to these schools was Rs. 15,073.

48. Stipends of Rs. 3 each per mensem were given to six boys who were given instruction in button making in the Travancore Button Factory at Valiathurai.

*Miscellaneous.* During the year 8 applications aggregating to Rs. 8,000 for industrial loans were granted and the industries concerned were the match industry, soap making, motor workshop, bell-metal industry, carpentry workshop and cotton weaving. The industrial library which contained 1,652 volumes was made use of by 774 members of the

general public in addition to the officers of the department and the students undergoing training in the several departmental institutions. The Srimulam Shashtiabdapurthi Memorial Institute, which has been established by public subscription in commemoration of the sixtieth birthday of His Highness the late Maharaja of Travancore, was opened during the year. The institution is an industrial and commercial museum and information bureau. The institution is managed by a committee of officials and non-officials appointed by Government. Raw materials available in the country and products of indigenous industries are exhibited in the institute and information is given to enquirers regarding sources of their supply. The department issued four bulletins during the year, one on lignite, another on chrome tanning, the third on leather manufacture and the fourth on book-keeping for rural industries. Loom accessories worth Rs. 1,472 were purchased and a sum of Rs. 1,465 was realised by their sale to the public.

49. The receipts and expenditure of the Department of Industries during the past three years are detailed below :—

| Receipts.                                             | 1101       | 1102   | 1103   |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------|--------|
|                                                       | Rs.        | Rs.    | Rs.    |
| Receipts from Technical Industries                    | 509        | 237    | 1,860  |
| " from S. M. Technical School                         | 792        | 887    | 1,247  |
| " from School of Arts                                 | 4,569      | 6,436  | 5,173  |
| " from School of Commerce                             | 3,229      | 3,006  | 4,568  |
| " from Carpentry and Smithery School                  | 1,114      | 689    | 965    |
| " under the Prime Movers and Steam Boilers Regulation | 2,411      | 2,845  | 2,076  |
| Experimental Tannery                                  | ..         | ..     | 2,527  |
| Other receipts                                        | 3,476      | 3,025  | 1,170  |
| Total of receipts                                     | 16,127     | 17,584 | 19,555 |
| Deduct refunds                                        | ..         | 36     | 1101   |
| Net Total                                             | Rs. 16,127 | 17,548 | 19,444 |

| Expenditure.                                   | 1101            | 1102            | 1103            |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                                | Rs.             | Rs.             | Rs.             |
| Director                                       | 37,476          | 38,447          | 35,026          |
| Simlana Technical School                       | 8,868           | 7,006           | 7,337           |
| S. M. B. V. Technical Institute                | 5,320           | 5,638           | 5,225           |
| Carpentry School                               | 8,393           | 7,279           | 7,501           |
| School of Arts                                 | 23,686          | 24,524          | 23,900          |
| School of Commerce                             | 6,314           | 5,213           | 12,086          |
| Grants-in-aid to Industrial Schools            | 12,617          | 12,107          | 14,018          |
| Technological Institute                        | 3,319           | 3,261           | 2,264           |
| Itinerant parties                              | 2,352           | 3,006           | 5,143           |
| Experimental Tannery                           | 4,221           | 6,410           | 5,308           |
| Assembling of Umbrellas                        | 128             | ..              | ..              |
| Electroplating Industry                        | 679             | ..              | ..              |
| Industrial Engineer and Chief Boiler Inspector | 10,145          | 9,802           | 4,297           |
| Examination charges                            | 1,276           | 663             | 1,110           |
| <b>Total Rs.</b>                               | <b>1,26,177</b> | <b>1,28,056</b> | <b>1,25,079</b> |

The net expenditure of the department fell from Rs. 1,10,508 to Rs. 1,05,624 or by Rs. 4,884.

#### Economic Development Board.

50. The Economic Development Board was constituted with a view to co-ordinate the activities of the several Development Departments and to secure non-official

*Constitution and Meetings of the Board.*

advice in the development of the economic resources of the State and the establishment of new industries and the expansion of old ones. The Board consists of 5 official and 7 non-official members. Four of the latter were elected by the members of the Legislative Council and three nominated by Government. The members hold office for a period of three years. Four meetings of the Board were held at Trivandrum during the year. The percentage of attendance at these meetings was 83 and 23 subjects were discussed in all.

51. The most important subjects considered by the Board and forming the subject of recommendations to Government, were the following:—

(1) Necessity for improving and protecting the existing irrigation tanks and canals in the State and transferring them to the control of the Agricultural Department.

(2) The need of a thorough enquiry into the condition of existing factory industries by a committee to be appointed by Government before proposals for industrial development were formulated by the Board.

(3) The appointment of a committee to enquire into the working of Co-operative Societies in the State.

(4) The desirability of financial assistance being rendered by Government to house building Co-operative Societies.

(5) The retention of the services of honorary workers and organisers to develop non-credit Co-operative Societies and payment to them of travelling allowance.

(6) The desirability for an economic survey of rural conditions in the State.

(7) Propaganda in public health, agriculture and industries.

These recommendations of the Board are engaging the attention of the Government. The Travancore Economic Journal continued to be published under the auspices of the Board.

52. The total expenditure during the year on account of the Board was Rs. 3,636 against Rs. 4,194 in 1102.

*Finance.*

#### Joint Stock Companies.

*Registrar.*

*Mr. K. Venkata Rao.*

53. The number of companies registered during the year was 85. They were registered on a limited liability basis.

This number is the highest on record since 1095 M. E. Of these 66 conducted banking and loan transactions; 16 trading and manufacturing and 3 were syndicates for land colonisation purposes. The number of banks registered during the year

constitutes also the highest on record. Their authorised capital was 96 lakhs. The largest number of banks were started in Thiruvella, followed by Changanachery and Kottayam. The majority of these banks conducted chitties. The number of Joint Stock Companies limited by shares at work at the end of the year was 221 of which 200 were public and 21 private. The majority of these companies, viz., 119 conducted banking and chitty business. Forty-eight societies carried on trading and manufacturing business and 43 engaged in planting tea, rubber, etc. The remaining societies were engaged in diverse activities such as transport, mills and presses, sugar and salt manufacture. There were three companies limited by guarantee.

54. The aggregate authorised, subscribed and paid up capital of the 221 companies limited by shares at work at the close of the year was Rs. 5.81 crores, Rs. 1.97 crores and Rs. 1.15 crores respectively against Rs. 4.80 crores, Rs. 1.67 crores and Rs. 1.03 crores respectively in 1102. The State-Aided Bank of Travancore Ltd., has the largest authorised (Rs. 30 lakhs), subscribed (Rs. 14.73 lakhs) and paid up capital (Rs. 4.29 lakhs). There were 33 certified auditors at the end of the year.

55. The number of associations at work at the end of the year remained the same as at the end of the previous year, viz., 20. These continued their work of poor relief as well as of social, moral, educational and religious propaganda.

56. No fresh prosecution was instituted during the year under the Travancore Companies Regulation while one of the prosecutions started in the previous year was still under judicial enquiry.

57. There were at the commencement of the year 68 companies established outside Travancore and having places of business in the State. Three of these ceased to have any business in the State during the year. Three new companies, two from Colombo and one from Germany, opened places of business

in Travancore. Another company which suspended its activities in 1101 resumed business. Thus, the number of foreign companies working in Travancore at the close of the year was 69 or one more than the number at the end of the previous year. Thirty-three of these were incorporated in England, 20 in British India, 6 in Scotland, 5 in Colombo, 2 in Australia and the rest in Germany, Hongkong and the United States of America. Twenty of these were engaged in insurance; 23 in tea and rubber planting; 14 in trade and manufacture; 4 in banking business; 3 in transport; 3 in mining; one in sugar manufacture and one in missionary work.

58. The following statement gives the receipts and expenditure under Joint Stock Companies during the past three years:—

|                 | 1101  | 1102  | 1103   |
|-----------------|-------|-------|--------|
|                 | Rs.   | Rs.   | Rs.    |
| Receipts ...    | 5,585 | 7,196 | 15,665 |
| Expenditure ... | 6,523 | 6,483 | 6,704  |

As a result of the phenomenal increase in the number of Joint Stock Companies registered during the year, the receipts under fees for registration increased by about 118 per cent. The net receipts of the department rose from Rs. 713 to Rs. 8,961.

## CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

## Constitution of Societies.

*Registrar. Mr. R. Vaidyalingam Pillai, B. A., B. L.*

59. The number of societies at the commencement of the year was 1,555. The number of societies registered during the year was 151. The registration of 18

*Number and Nature of Societies.* societies was cancelled. There were therefore at the end of the year 1,688 societies.

The basis of liability was limited in 284 and unlimited in 1,404 societies. The number of societies which started work during the year was 1,651 or one society for every 2,426 inhabitants. Of these, one was a central financing bank, one a central weaving society, one a central institute, 25 were local supervising unions, 1,329 agricultural societies, 280 non-agricultural societies, 8 distributive societies and 6 of other types. The majority of these societies, *viz.*, 1,611 did credit business alone; 26 combined credit with production and sale; 8 did distributive work; 3 were for encouraging poultry farming; one was an educational society; one conducted an Ayurvedic dispensary and school and one was for the improvement of rural sanitation. The largest number of societies, *viz.*, 212 was in the Thiruvella taluk, followed by Kottayam (122), Mavelikara (106), Neyyattinkara (87), Pathanamthitta (87) and Changanacherry (87). The number of communal societies rose from 642 to 738 of which 201 were composed of Nairs, 141 of Christians and 121 of Cheramars. The number of societies for the depressed classes rose from 222 to 224.

60. The total number of individual members in all societies increased from 150,932 to 177,824 or by 18 per cent. This strength represented nearly 4 per cent

*Membership.* of the total population in the State, while the percentage in Madras was only 2. Of the total number of members, 80 per cent were members of agricultural societies. The average membership per society increased from 98 to 109. That every community has a correct

appreciation of the benefits of the co-operative movement is manifested by the circumstance that every community has contributed its representative towards the composition of the existing societies in the State. In numerical strength of membership, Nairs constituted 36 per cent, Christians 25 per cent, Ezhavas 13 per cent and Cheramars 5 per cent. The amplitude of the movement may be judged by the fact that at an average of 5 relations to every member, the number of persons who may be deemed to have come within the fold of the movement works out to one in every 5 of the population. In point of occupation, 48 per cent of the members were pure agriculturists; 31 per cent non-agriculturists; 15 per cent derived their income partly from agricultural and partly from other sources; and 6 per cent were artisans. The number of women members increased from 15,687 to 19,507 and represented 10 per cent of the entire total number of members.

#### Finances.

61. The finances of co-operative societies comprise share capital, deposits, reserve fund and loans. The total share capital in all societies increased from Rs. 16.66 lakhs to Rs. 21.55 lakhs or by Rs. 4.89 lakhs, i. e., by 29 per cent. The agricultural societies contributed 70 per cent, the non-agricultural societies 27 per cent and the Central Bank 3 per cent. The average paid up share capital per society was Rs. 1,326 against Rs. 1,108 in 1102.

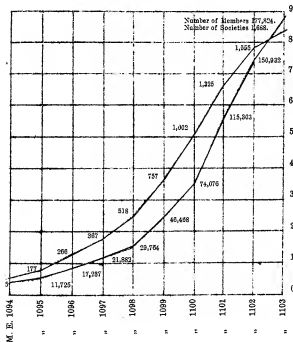
62. The total receipts under deposits rose from Rs. 8.96 lakhs to Rs. 11.13 lakhs, while the disbursements also rose from Rs. 5.82 lakhs to Rs. 8.97 lakhs.

*Deposits.* The deposits made by members of societies represented 63 per cent of the total deposits while the balance was contributed by non-members. These figures amply testify to the growing confidence of the public in the movement. Of the total deposits, 55 per cent was in the Central Bank, 26 per cent in non-agricultural societies and 19 per cent in agricultural societies.

PROGRESS OF THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN NUMBER  
OF SOCIETIES AND MEMBERSHIP.

*Note:—*

1. Each square with a blue straight line and figures denoting the number of members in Co-operative Societies represents 20,000.
2. Each square with a red straight line and figures denoting the number of Societies represents 200.



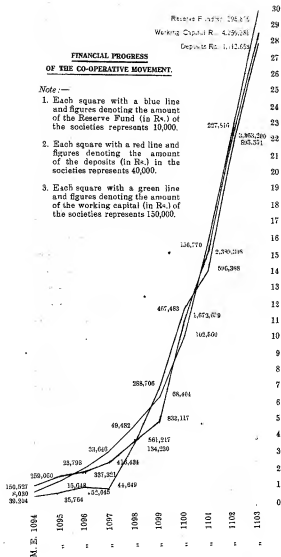
*Litho, T. A. P. Works, Trivandrum.*

Reserve Fund Rs. 195,815  
Working Capital Rs. 4,39,281  
Deposits Rs. 1,11,654

**FINANCIAL PROGRESS  
OF THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT.**

Note:—

1. Each square with a blue line and figures denoting the amount of the Reserve Fund (in Rs.) of the societies represents 10,000.
2. Each square with a red line and figures denoting the amount of the deposits (in Rs.) in the societies represents 40,000.
3. Each square with a green line and figures denoting the amount of the working capital (in Rs.) of the societies represents 150,000.



63. The reserve fund of all societies amounted to Rs. 2.24 lakhs at the commencement of the year. A sum of Rs. 2,741 was added to the funds from undisposed of profits. As a result of the audit of the accounts of the societies for the year under report, a further sum of Rs. 72,233 was proposed to be credited to the fund. The total of the reserve fund was therefore Rs. 2.99 lakhs against Rs. 2.27 lakhs at the end of 1102.

64. The loan transactions of all the societies aggregated to Rs. 25.67 lakhs or 19 lakh less than the amount for the previous year. While the total of loans issued by societies decreased by Rs. .57 lakh, the amount of loans issued by the Central Bank increased by Rs. 38 lakh. The purposes of the loans were cultivation, purchase of cattle, payment of Sirkar kist or *michaigram*, purchase of raw materials, improvement of lands, trade, education, building and repairing houses, construction of country carts, boats, etc., purchase of land, of food stuffs and necessities of life, payment of prior debts and of *streedhanam*, and other purposes. Amongst the loans for productive purposes the largest amount was for trade, viz., Rs. 5.60 lakhs, followed by the amount for expenses of cultivation (Rs. 3.65 lakhs). Amongst non-productive loans, those for payment of prior debts amounted to Rs. 7.05 lakhs. The proportion of productive to non-productive loans is the same as in the previous year, viz., 15 to 8. Loans not exceeding Rs. 50 constituted as usual a little less than half of the entire amount of loans. The majority of the loans were issued on the joint and several responsibility of the borrower and one or more members standing sureties and they were for periods not exceeding one year. In the case of agricultural societies, the percentage of arrears rose from 23 to 30 under principal and from 28 to 35 under interest. In non-agricultural societies also, the percentage rose from 25 to 36 under principal and from 33 to 41 under interest. This was due generally to unfavourable seasonal conditions and to the sudden termination of the co-operative year two months earlier. It is reported that this unsatisfactory feature of the working of co-operative

societies will disappear in the current year as a result of the greater supervision on the part of the department and the non-official agencies of local unions.

65. The working capital constitutes the resources of co-operative societies and consists of the share capital, loans, deposits and the reserve fund. The work-

*Working  
Capital.*

ing capital of all societies on the last day of the year increased from Rs. 33·63 lakhs, to Rs. 42·59 lakhs or by Rs. 8·96 lakhs, i. e., by 27 per cent. Agricultural societies contributed 54 per cent of the working capital; non-agricultural societies 25 per cent; and the Central Bank 21 per cent. The average working capital per society was Rs. 2,621 against Rs. 2,236.

#### Working of Societies.

66. The number of individual members increased from 524 to 758 and of society members from 519 to 588. The aggregate paid up share capital rose from

*The Central* Rs. 43,730 to Rs. 62,250. The working  
*Co-operative* capital of the Central Bank increased from  
*Bank.* Rs. 7·42 lakhs to Rs. 9·08 lakhs. The

fixed and current deposits in the Bank showed steady improvement. They rose from Rs. 4·45 lakhs to Rs. 5·95 lakhs. The increase in deposits during the quinquennium was 376 per cent. The Provident Deposit Scheme continued to be popular. The reserve fund of societies invested in the Bank amounted to Rs. 62,853 and there was also a supervision fund of Rs. 5,095. The total amount of loans issued by the Bank was Rs. 3·12 lakhs made up of Rs. 1·20 lakhs to individual members and Rs. 1·92 lakhs to society members including taluk banks. The outstandings at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 7·55 lakhs of which the sum overdue was Rs. 47,086. The collections under principal and interest were satisfactory. The percentage of balance pending collection to the total demand under principal was 19 against 22, while the corresponding percentage under interest was 14·7 against 14·2 in 1102. The net profit which accrued to the Bank rose from Rs. 12,169 to Rs. 12,768. During the year, Government agreed, as a matter of concession to the Bank, to pay 4 per cent interest on all sums deposited by

it in Sirkar treasury savings banks and to allow the Bank to make withdrawals within certain limits on the security of the deposits.

67. There were 15 taluk banks at the end of the year against 14 in 1102. These banks, like the Central Bank, did

*Taluk Banks.* business both with individuals and with societies. Loans to societies aggregated

Rs. 29,350 and those to individuals Rs. 1.41 lakhs. The Registrar has already rightly directed these banks to deal more largely with affiliated societies than with individuals. The total working capital of the taluk banks was Rs. 3.88 lakhs. They had a reserve fund of Rs. 8,318 and earned a net profit of Rs. 15,602.

68. There were 8 urban banks in the year under report against 6 in 1102. Their membership consisted of 4,161 individuals. They had a

*Urban Banks.* working capital of Rs. 1.43 lakhs and a reserve fund of Rs. 8,011. They earned a net profit of Rs. 7,079.

69. Agricultural societies were 1,329 in number with 141,626 members. These societies had a

*Agricultural Societies.* working capital of Rs. 23 lakhs and a reserve fund of Rs. 1.63 lakhs.

70. There were 295 non-agricultural societies with a total membership of 35,440. Their working

*Non-Agricultural Societies.* capital was Rs. 10.51 lakhs and their reserve fund Rs. 50,679.

71. The number of distributive or consumers' societies working at the end of the year increased from 5 to 8. These purchased articles to the value of Rs. 99,508

*Consumers' Societies.* and sold for Rs. 1.07 lakhs. The Trivandrum Co-operative Distributive Society

which was the premier society of the kind made purchases for Rs. 84,418 and sales for Rs. 90,667. The gross profit earned by this society was Rs. 6,036. Among rural societies, seven combined distribution with credit and made purchases and sales for Rs. 42,516 and Rs. 42,776 respectively. The gross profit earned by these rural societies was Rs. 2,132.

72. The progress of the co-operative movement during the past three years amongst depressed and backward classes may be gauged from the following statement:—

*Societies for depressed and backward Classes.*

| Name of Class.            | No. of working societies. |       |       | No. of Members. |        |        |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------|-------|-----------------|--------|--------|
|                           | 1101.                     | 1102. | 1103. | 1101.           | 1102.  | 1103.  |
| Araya                     | 24                        | 28    | 21    | 1,696           | 1,545  | 1,770  |
| Valas                     | 24                        | 42    | 43    | 3,375           | 2,614  | 2,621  |
| Coast Christian fishermen | 16                        | 17    | 34    | 841             | 1,045  | 1,851  |
| Cheramar                  | 101                       | 119   | 121   | 5,543           | 7,495  | 7,635  |
| Sankar                    | 15                        | 19    | 19    | 836             | 1,348  | 1,635  |
| Total                     | 188                       | 220   | 238   | 13,095          | 14,042 | 15,505 |

| Working Capital. |          |          | Reserve Fund. |        |        | Net Profit. |       |       |
|------------------|----------|----------|---------------|--------|--------|-------------|-------|-------|
| 1101.            | 1102.    | 1103.    | 1101.         | 1102.  | 1103.  | 1101.       | 1102. | 1103. |
| 35,698           | 32,107   | 37,713   | 2,795         | 3,612  | 4,311  | 2,480       | 2,567 | 1,901 |
| 17,517           | 22,638   | 24,217   | 935           | 1,443  | 1,857  | 545         | 1,069 | 1,046 |
| 14,086           | 18,581   | 26,067   | 1,357         | 2,016  | 3,069  | 450         | 583   | 1,420 |
| 25,148           | 37,318   | 43,218   | 1,685         | 2,744  | 3,644  | 1,384       | 1,985 | 1,917 |
| 5,282            | 10,431   | 15,009   | 691           | 907    | 1,035  | ...         | ...   | ...   |
| 90,231           | 1,21,072 | 1,43,229 | 7,063         | 11,242 | 13,509 | 4,799       | 6,204 | 6,288 |

The majority of the Araya societies were reported to be not efficient compared with the Vala societies which had the advantage of the advice and help of the officers of the Fisheries Department. Government sanctioned during the year the appointment of 5 group secretaries for the help of Cheramar societies and it is expected that these societies will improve their standard of working.

73. There were 36 societies for Government servants functioning merely as ordinary credit societies. The organisation of teachers' co-operative societies

*Other Societies.* which were 5 in number did not work well. Thirty one artisans' societies were working during the year; but the societies did not thrive as well as they should. The four societies for municipal employees which existed in the previous year continued throughout the year. Three societies for factory employees functioned during the year, one for the Punalur Paper Mills, the other for Messrs. Harrisons Crosfield and the third for the Chittadi Estate. Five societies collected grain both as share instalments and deposits and transacted business both in grain and money. A society at Oachira conducted an English Middle School. Another society at Aiyroor conducted a dispensary and an Ayurvedic School.

74. The Travancore Co-operative Institute which is a federation of the several local supervising unions, continued to function throughout the year. Through its agency

*Supervising Unions.* the Fifth All Travancore Co-operative Conference was held at Shertallai, the Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition at Mandacad was conducted, the International Co-operators' Day was celebrated, the co-operative monthly in Malayalam continued to be published and the organisation of more distributive stores was encouraged. The number of supervising unions at the end of the year was 26 to which 1,361 societies were affiliated. The total receipts of the unions including Government grants of Rs. 6,033 amounted to Rs. 15,166 and the expenditure to Rs. 15,871. The unions were not self-supporting.

75. The work of the department in co-ordination with the Agricultural, Industrial and Forest Departments continued to be satisfactory. The results of the co-ordinated

*Departmental Co-ordination.* activities of these departments have already been recorded in the previous pages under the respective departments. The popularisation of methods and ways of agricultural improvements, demonstration of improved methods, use of better implements and

seeds and of scientific manures, the system of taungya teak plantations, loans for small industries, improvements of weaving—all these through the instrumentality of co-operative societies were some of the most noteworthy features of such co-ordination. The Societies also undertook contract work for the Public Works, Education and Maramat Departments.

76. Eighty one societies conducted chitties for the benefit of their members. One society at Kuzhithura did propaganda work in rural areas for the improvement of

*Miscellaneous.* public health and conducted a dispensary. A mutual benefit fund was started by 2 societies. Four societies conducted night schools, 14 had reading rooms, 7 managed grant-in-aid schools, 7 took up lands on leases from members, 55 did arbitration work, 11 purchased coconut husks for preparing raw material for the manufacture of coir yarn, 41 introduced *kettuthengu* deposits in kind (coconuts) and 4 acted as vendors for the sale of revenue court fee stamps.

77. The cost to Government of working the Co-operative Societies Regulation fell from Rs. 51,354 to Rs. 50,018. The cost works to an average of Rs. 29.6 per society against Rs. 32.3 in 1102. The corresponding cost in the Madras Presidency during 1926-27 was Rs. 54. The societies themselves incurred an expenditure of Rs. 83,528 against Rs. 82,142 in the previous year.

#### Factories.

78. There were 157 factories at the end of the year against 190 in 1102. Of these 41 were in the Trivandrum Division,

55 in the Quilon Division, 7 in the Kottayam Division and 54 in the Devicolum Division. Fifty two factories in the Devicolum Division were engaged in the manufacture of black tea, 1 in the manufacture of green tea and 1 in the curing of cardamom. The remaining 103 factories in the other divisions were engaged in the manufacture of soda-water, bricks, tiles, coir yarn, coir matting, tea,

rubber, paper, steel goods, furniture, matches, cotton weaving, extraction of coconut oil and minerals, milling rice and husking paddy and printing. Four of these factories were worked by water power, 35 by gas, 14 by electricity, 18 by oil, 7 by steam and water, 28 by steam 15 by gas and oil and 36 by manual labour.

79. The total number of hands employed was 13,971 which includes 1,895 women and 2,415 children. The average daily wages ranged from As. 4 to Rs. 2. The *Labour Conditions*. duration of work varied from 8 to 12 hours a day. The District Magistrates and the Medical Officers inspected the factories within their respective jurisdictions. Building accommodation and sanitary arrangements were generally satisfactory.

#### Patents and Designs.

*Controller.* Mr. T. P. Ramasubba Aiyar, B. A.

80. Seven patents in respect of the following inventions were sealed during the year :—

1. Process for the production of homogeneous rubber deposits from rubber latex.
2. Improved Mechanical Plucker for Tea or the like.
3. Aloe-Vera (Littoralis) Soap.
4. Improvements in and relating to coloured tiles, bricks or the like.
5. Improvements in or relating to a manner of or means for pruning trees, cutting timber or the like.
6. An improved method of and means for withering green tea leaf.
7. Improvements in the Direct Production of Rubber Goods from Rubber Dispersions.

Of the above, one patent, *viz.*, Aloe-Vera (Littoralis) Soap, was granted to Mr. P. John Kurien, a Travancorean.

Two designs were registered during the year.

The receipts amounted to Rs. 1,796 against Rs. 810 in the previous year and the expenditure to Rs. 300, the same as in 1102,

# CHAPTER IX.

## BUILDINGS, COMMUNICATIONS AND IRRIGATION.

### Public Works Department.

Chief Engineer. *Mr. Alfred Vipian, M. I. C. E.*

The total grant sanctioned for the department for 1103 increased from Rs. 31,39,022 to Rs. 45,38,756 or by Rs. 13,99,734. The actual expenditure *Grant and Outlay.* also increased from Rs. 28,51,825 to Rs. 37,45,000. The following statement compares the outlay during the year with that for the previous year:—

| Particulars.                                                           | Work.     |           | Repairs.  |           | Total.    |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                                                                        | 1102.     | 1103.     | 1102.     | 1103.     | 1102.     | 1103.     |
|                                                                        | Rs.       | Rs.       | Rs.       | Rs.       | Rs.       | Rs.       |
| 1. Buildings, including Military and Judicial works                    | 2,35,237  | 1,70,360  | 3,41,182  | 1,20,843  | 5,76,420  | 2,91,203  |
| 2. Communications                                                      | 8,46,111  | 12,17,116 | 8,37,214  | 8,68,374  | 16,83,385 | 20,85,490 |
| 3. Miscellaneous Public Improvements                                   | 20,600    | 68,192    | 42,751    | 50,117    | 70,851    | 1,18,309  |
| 4. Irrigation—Farms                                                    | 52,285    | 1,11,062  | 12,516    | 18,494    | 64,145    | 1,29,556  |
| 5. Regulator Irrigation                                                | —         | —         | —         | —         | —         | —         |
| (a) Capital                                                            | 11,444    | 4,345     | —         | —         | 11,444    | 4,345     |
| (b) Revenue                                                            | 27,077    | 22,628    | 34,559    | 27,500    | 61,636    | 50,173    |
| Total                                                                  | 12,24,299 | 15,22,660 | 11,15,669 | 11,79,448 | 23,39,968 | 27,02,139 |
| 6. Civil Public Buildings—Railways                                     | 42,754    | 5,224     | 1,463     | 4,878     | 48,041    | 10,106    |
| 7. Total of Works and Repairs                                          | 12,71,818 | 15,33,108 | 11,36,442 | 11,87,317 | 24,08,260 | 27,12,245 |
| 8. Tools and Plant                                                     | —         | —         | —         | —         | 89,798    | 76,359    |
| 9. Buildings—Miscellaneous Capital expenditure not charged to revenue  | —         | —         | —         | —         | 4,73,143  | 4,76,000  |
| 10. Buildings—Miscellaneous Revenue expenditure not charged to revenue | —         | —         | —         | —         | —         | 1,00,847  |
| 11. Other—Other Buildings—Total above receipts on Capital Account      | —         | —         | —         | —         | 20,70,543 | 24,41,421 |
| 12. Other—Other Buildings—Total above receipts on Capital Account      | —         | —         | —         | —         | —         | —         |
| 13. Net Outlay for the year                                            | —         | —         | —         | —         | 25,12,061 | 27,27,765 |

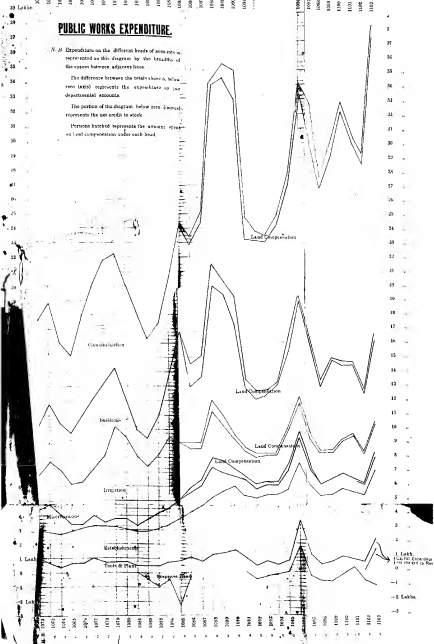
### **PUBLIC WORKS EXPENDITURE.**

*N. B.* Expenditure on the different kinds of sources is represented in this diagram by the breadth of the spaces between adjacent lines.

The difference between the totals shown above, namely, 200 (1000) represents the expenditure on non-departmental accounts.

The portion of the diagram below zero ( $\text{mmu}_t$ ) represents the net credit to stock

Percent hatched represents the average of three  
wet land compartments under each head.



2. The total outlay on the construction of buildings was Rs. 4,39,790. This was the highest on record during the past quinquennium. The total expenditure on

*Buildings.* account of construction and repairs was Rs. 6,29,547 against Rs. 3,74,103. This included Military and Anchal works. The outlay on original works was Rs. 4,70,102 and that on repairs Rs. 1,59,445. Excluding Military and Anchal works, the expenditure amounted to Rs. 5,91,818 of which original works cost Rs. 4,39,790 and repairs Rs. 1,52,028. The major portion of the expenditure on buildings was in the Trivandrum Division, *viz.*, Rs. 2,43,496. The heaviest expenditure was, as in the previous year, incurred on educational buildings, *viz.*, Rs. 2,29,535, or about 39 per cent of the total expenditure. Amongst the important buildings completed or nearing completion during the year may be mentioned the English High School, Nagercoil, the science block of the Women's College, Trivandrum, the extension of the chemical laboratory attached to the College of Science, Trivandrum. The construction of a Post and Telegraph Office at Trivandrum estimated to cost Rs. 71,625 was started as a contribution work and made good progress.

3. The Government have long recognised the importance of good communications and the need for their steady development.

*Communications.* The progress achieved in this direction will be evident from the total outlay on communications and the increase in the mileage of roads from year to year. The following statement gives details of the expenditure in lakhs of rupees under this head during the past quinquennium :—

| Year. | Works. | Repairs. | Total. | Percentage of the total actual expenditure. |
|-------|--------|----------|--------|---------------------------------------------|
| 1099  | 6.81   | 7.41     | 14.22  | 59                                          |
| 1100  | 10.23  | 7.64     | 17.87  | 64                                          |
| 1101  | 7.80   | 7.94     | 15.74  | 62                                          |
| 1102  | 8.46   | 8.37     | 16.83  | 69                                          |
| 1103  | 12.47  | 9.07     | 21.54  | 69                                          |

The expenditure on communications in 1103 was the highest during the past five years and was incurred in the opening of new roads, conversion of traces and foot-paths into roads fit for traffic, and in the execution of improvements and special repairs to existing roads and bridges. The expenditure represents about 9 per cent of the total general revenues of the State. The incidence per head of population was about As. 8. Of the total expenditure, 30 per cent was spent in the Kottayam Division, 25 per cent in the Alwaye Division, 22 per cent in the Quilon Division, 15 per cent in the Trivandrum Division and 8 per cent in the Nagercoil Division. The following roads were the most important under construction during the year :—

- (a) Pallivasal—Neriamangalam road.
- (b) Shertallai—Aror road.
- (c) Quilon—Alleppey road.

The Pallivasal-Neriamangalam road forms part of the line already investigated from Kothamangalam to Munnar *via* Neriamangalam, Mannamkandam and Pallivasal. When completed, it will render Munnar easily accessible from the plains on the west by a route entirely within the State itself; it should draw from the planting district in the High Range traffic which now passes into British India; and it will also open up for cultivation the fertile regions through which the road will pass. The completion of the Shertallai-Arora road and the improvements effected in the Quilon-Alleppey road established for the first time through communication by land from Trivandrum to the Cochin frontier *via* Alleppey. The road from Alleppey to Arora constitutes an important trunk road running right through the taluk of Shertallai which has long languished for want of proper roads in its extensive sandy tracts. The development of motor traffic on this road since its completion is

phenomenal. The length of communications maintained during the past 5 years is as follows :—

| Communication.    | Miles in |       |       |       |       |
|-------------------|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                   | 1099     | 1100  | 1101  | 1102  | 1103  |
| Main roads ...    | 2,803    | 2,872 | 2,874 | 3,055 | 3,085 |
| Village roads ... | 1,336    | 1,246 | 1,204 | 1,141 | 1,165 |
| Traces ...        | 515      | 482   | 486   | 494   | 502   |
| Canals ...        | 199      | 205   | 205   | 216   | 221   |
| Total ...         | 4,853    | 4,805 | 4,769 | 4,906 | 4,973 |

The increase in the total length of communications during the past triennium was 204 miles and this was mainly in Central and North Travancore. If the area of the State Forests be excluded there was approximately a little over a mile of communications maintained by Government to every square mile in the State. This does not include navigable backwaters and rivers. The average cost of maintenance per mile was Rs. 511 for metalled roads, Rs. 152 for un-metalled roads, Rs. 31 for village roads, Rs. 25 for traces and Rs. 238 for canals. The highest rates of maintenance grants were in the Kottayam and Trivandrum Divisions for metalled roads and Quilon and Trivandrum Divisions for unmetalled and village roads. The highest cost of maintenance was for the main southern road, *viz.*, Rs. 1,200 per mile.

4. With the steady increase in the mileage of roads every year, the demand for more roads has also been persistent.

The problem is to co-ordinate these demands. To solve this problem, it is proposed to organise a Road Board for each division and a Central Board for the whole State and to

associate in these Boards representatives of the people. The question of future road development will depend on the deliberations and recommendations of these Boards. Another problem which has confronted the department here as elsewhere, is how, in view of the increase in the number and speed of motor vehicles, to construct rigid and resilient roads compatible with the rise in expenditure on account of construction, repair and maintenance of public roads and in conformity with the climatic conditions peculiar to Travancore. This problem is engaging the attention of Government.

5. The Government alone are mainly responsible for all the roads in Travancore. Within the past four years, a few municipalities have taken over the maintenance of

*Control of Road* non-arterial roads within municipal limits.  
*Construction.* Government pay grants to them on a sliding

scale by which after five years the Government grants will cease. There is also a system of ryots' roads under which roads are opened by people themselves, Government merely advising alignments and constructing bridges and culverts. The roads, if satisfactory, are subsequently taken over and maintained by Government. Ryots' roads to the extent of 131 miles were taken over for departmental maintenance in the previous year and the activities of the department in this matter continued during the year. Revised rules for ryots' roads are under the consideration of Government. Government allot funds from the general revenues of the State for financing the construction and maintenance of roads. Municipalities have not yet taken up the construction of roads. In view of the control of roads having long vested in Government, the existing road system of the State is well co-ordinated within the State itself and is so connected with the systems of the adjacent Madras Presidency and the Cochin State as to carry traffic without a break in continuity. There are main arterial roads throughout the length and breadth of the State to which are linked a net work of subsidiary and feeder roads. The road system also connects up with internal waterways and ports. They have further been constructed to open up and serve important planting areas and industrial centres.

6. There were in the previous year 32 principal bridges in the State and 23 important places where bridges were required.

Eight bridges were also under construction one of which at Kodanad was completed

*Bridges.* in 1102. The total expenditure incurred during the year on bridges and culverts was Rs. 3,12,283 of which Rs. 3,10,976 was on original works. The bridges over the canal from Parur to Vadakkekkara and over the Thodupuzha river at Pulical crossing were practically completed. The bridges over the Meenachil and Manimala rivers and at Vallamkalam were in different stages of construction. Towards the close of the year, the Killiyar bridge in the heart of the Capital suddenly gave way under the simultaneous impact of a steam roller and a loaded eight-seater car. The bridge was reconstructed within three months with commendable promptitude at a total cost of Rs. 16,264. The bridge has a reinforced concrete decking 20 feet wide and a foot path 5' each on the two sides strong enough to meet the requirements of modern traffic. The accident at the Killiyar bridge has raised the question of a re-examination of the strength of the existing bridges to stand the strain of modern motor traffic. A special staff has been sanctioned for the purpose in the current year. The investigation for the construction of a bridge at Neendacara ferry was completed and Government have sanctioned the construction of a bridge costing Rs. 6 lakhs.

7. All important buildings and bridges were constructed of reinforced concrete, a method of building which was first commenced in Travancore in 1075 (1900) and in which the State Public Works Department has attained a high degree of efficiency.

*Mode of Construction.* 8. The commercial canal at Alleppey at its western end was completely improved and a large boat basin equipped with derricks was provided. The work connected with the construction of the Alleppey-Changanachery canal was partially carried out. The department attended to the deepening of many of the canals, backwaters and rivers. The report submitted by Rao Bahadur John Kurien, late Executive

*Inland Navigation.*

Engineer, on the results of his investigation of navigation facilities in the State, is under the consideration of Government.

9. The question of the appointment of a special staff to conduct detailed investigation of the sources

*Alleppey and* of watersupply for the Alleppey town is  
*Nagercoil Water* engaging the attention of Government. The  
*Supply.* report on the investigation of a scheme  
for water supply to the town of Nagercoil  
is also under consideration.

10. The commencement of the actual work in connection with the scheme of water supply for the Capital disclosed the

*Triandrum* circumstance that the dam and the con-  
*Water Supply.* nected works, the main supply line, the  
purification system and the distribution  
system had all to be re-investigated and

re-designed involving extensive field work. The re-alignment of the line for the main supply was completed and the line pegged out on the ground during the year for nearly 8 miles. The area of service is about 11.22 square miles. Fresh field surveys were necessary for designing the purification system and a contour survey of the town had to be made for determining the distribution system. The contour of the main filtration lake of the impounding basin was traced and lock spitten. The foundations for the dam were examined and a regular analysis, chemical and bacteriological, of the Aruvikara water was continued in the year. The Executive Engineer in charge of the works inspected and studied some of the water works in British India and Indian States. As a result of the knowledge gained in his tour, it was decided to adopt castiron pipes for the mains. On his return at the end of the year, he has taken up the preparation of designs.

11. The distribution line for the electric supply is intended to cover 26 miles. The estimated cost of Rs. 2½ lakhs referred

*Triandrum* to in the previous year's report was based  
*Electric Supply.* on the assumption that the distribution line  
would be only 16 miles. With the increase  
in the distribution line so as to serve a  
greater area of the town, the estimate was revised and fixed at

Rs. 4.10 lakhs. Since the close of the year the Power House has been completed, the engines erected and the machinery fitted. About 600 poles have been erected and cross arms and street-lights fitted representing about 15 miles of line.

12. The construction of almost all the wells in non-municipal areas and markets that were left incomplete at the end of the previous year was finished and a few others were taken up for execution during the year. A revised scheme for the sinking of wells in non-municipal areas by the Sanitary Department is under the consideration of Government.

13. The importance of the restoration and efficient up-keep of protective irrigation works continued to engage the attention of the Public Works Department. The

|                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Protective Irrigation.</i> | total outlay on account of these works during the year was Rs. 1,29,866. Tanks and channels in certain taluks in North and Central Travancore were improved. Most of the old incomplete works connected with the tank restoration scheme in the Shencotta taluk were completed. The restoration of tanks in the Trivandrum and Neyyattinkara taluks made good progress. The work of restoration of the Anathazhachira and the Venkulam tank both of which cover an area of over 10 acres and command a large ayacut, was taken up and completed during the year. A sum of Rs. 38,044 was spent in South Travancore for the restoration and repairs of channels and tanks. The total expenditure under protective irrigation was Rs. 1,90,417 of which a sum of Rs. 1,11,462, was spent on original works, Rs. 18,404 on maintenance and the balance on establishment, tools, plant etc. |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

14. The Kodayar Irrigation System is the most important system of the kind in the State. The gross total up to the end

|                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Kodayar Irrigation System.</i> | of the year under capital account stood at Rs. 86.21 lakhs. The total capital outlay on the system during the year was Rs. 9,763. The receipts from the sale of tank beds etc., credited to capital account amounted to |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Rs. 17,240, the result being a net credit of Rs. 7,477 to the capital account. The net total under capital account at the end of the year was Rs. 79.90 lakhs. The gross receipts from the system amounted to Rs. 1.88 lakhs or a little over 2 per cent on the gross outlay. The working expenses amounted to Rs. 54,874 and the net revenue was therefore Rs. 1.33 lakhs or 1.6 per cent on the net outlay. As a result of the deficient rainfall in the year, the water level in the reservoir sank to 2.45. There was difficulty in making a satisfactory distribution of water. But the major portion of the Kanni crops was saved by efficient control and economic distribution of water, although the crops raised on new conversations at the tail end of all channels failed as they could not be supplied with water at all. A total length of 322 miles of irrigation channels was maintained within the system and the area of assessed land which had the benefit of water from the Kodayar reservoir, was 54,559 acres.

15. The expenditure on establishment of all classes amounted to Rs. 4,78,030 against Rs. 4,73,185.

*Establishment.* The cost of establishment was 12.68 per cent of the gross outlay including Rs. 88,717 spent for other departments against 15.66 per cent in the previous year.

16. The total amount collected from all sources was Rs. 4,24,423. This exceeded the revenue in the previous year by Rs. 36,760. This was the highest

*Revenue* figure on record. The increase was  
*Receipts.* largely contributed by tolls on roads and bridges. The collections under tolls amounted to Rs. 3,06,882 against Rs. 2,53,488 in 1102. The other important items of revenue were :—(a) rent on buildings Rs. 10,533; (b) fees from travellers' bungalows and camp-sheds Rs. 9,107; (c) navigation receipts Rs. 65,217; (d) sale of produce of avenue trees Rs. 14,035. In regard to tolls, it may be noted that five toll gates were abolished during the year and that there were at the end of the year 14 toll gates in different parts of the State. The largest collection was at the Kuzhithura toll gate, viz., Rs. 73,000. The increased collections under tolls indicate the very rapid

development of road traffic in the State. The increase in revenue under this head was progressive and phenomenal during the past decade, the increase being 706 per cent.

#### Maramat Department.

*Maramat Engineer.* Mr. O. S. Ramaswami Aiyar, B. A.,  
B. E., C. E. (till 4-9-1103).

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar, B. A.,  
B. E. (from 4-10-1103).

17. The scope of the Maramat Department is restricted to work connected with Devaswoms (religious institutions), *oottu-parahs* (feeding houses), *satroms* (rest houses), other charitable institutions and palaces. The department also exercises technical supervision over the Palace Panivagai (Works) Department.

18. The total grant on account of Government Maramat works was Rs. 1,26,410 and the outlay during the year was Rs. 1,10,690. The major portion of the *Maramat Works* expenditure was on buildings like palaces and *satroms* outside Trivandrum. Additional facilities were provided in these buildings to meet the needs of occupants. A school building in the Kowdiarkunnu Palace for the use of His Highness the Maha Raja was completed during the year at a cost of Rs. 26,594.

19. The total grant for Devaswom Maramat works was Rs. 2,80,000 and the expenditure was Rs. 2,67,144. The expenditure on major Devaswoms amounted to about Rs. 2,50,000 and the balance represented the outlay on minor Devaswom works. Several important works of renovation, reconstruction and repairs were carried out during the year.

20. In addition to the works carried out in respect of major and minor Devaswoms, the Maramat Department carried out works in the Personal Deposit Devaswoms at a total cost of Rs. 13,957 and certain other works for the Melkanganom and the Sreepadom out of their respective funds.

21. The total expenditure on Public Works amounted to Rs. 39,30,024 of which the expenditure under Public Works was Rs. 37,27,760 and that under Maramat was Rs. 2,02,264. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 30,08,288, Rs. 28,13,660 and Rs. 1,94,628.

#### Railways.

*Railway Engineer and Adviser to  
Government on Railways.*

*Mr. G. Marini.*

22. The plans and estimates for the extension of the railway from Chakai to Thambanur having been completed, the necessary approval of the Railway Board was obtained for the construction of the line by the State under the direction of the Railway Engineer. The extension will be metre gauge as the main line. The lands required for the line were acquired by the Special Land Acquisition Officer deputed by Government for the purpose. Tenders were also called for for execution of construction works on contract. The extension when completed will be worked by the South Indian Railway as part of the Travancore Railway under the existing contract.

23. A re-alignment of the Quilon-Ernakulam railway was completed at the Ernakulam end of the line and the plans and estimates were under preparation. Borings were being taken in the first section of the coast line from Mavelikara to Cochin in the traverse survey of which was completed in the previous year.

The field-work on the survey of the Tripunithura-Neriamangalam line was commenced during the year and was completed up to 20 miles. A proposal to continue the survey of the line beyond Neriamangalam to a distance of 20 miles along the Periyar Valley so as to investigate the possibility of a link with Pallivasal by means of a ropeway with the object of diverting the High Range traffic to the West Coast along that route was under consideration. It is proposed to locate the junction of the railway from Valparai on the Anamalais, surveyed by the Government of India, with this railway at Kothamangalam instead of at Thattakad as originally suggested.

24. The working of the existing railway from Shencotta to Trivandrum brought in a net income of Rs. 93,890 against Rs. 2,19,055 in 1102.

*Receipts and*      Rs. 93,890 against Rs. 2,19,055 in 1102.  
*Expenditure.*      The total of capital expenditure not charged to revenue during the year on account of railways was Rs. 1,10,243.

#### Anchor (State Postal Department).

*Superintendent.*      Mr. C. K. Nagan Pillai, B. A.

25. The Sirkar Anchor is one of the earliest institutions in the State. Its reorganisation as long ago as 1784 is the earliest reference to the department in extant authentic records. Its original function was the transmission of State covers and sundry articles like vegetables, flowers etc., from mofussil stations required for use in the palace and the Sri Padmanabha Swami temple. In 1848 the department was thrown open to Government servants and petitioners, private covers of Government servants and petitions from members of the public being carried free. Private covers were accepted from 1860 and postage on letters etc., was regulated the next year. Registered covers were introduced in 1865. Anchor stamps and cards in 1888; the money order system in 1901; the value payable system in 1906; and Savings Banks work in 1912.

26. Eight new non-departmental Anchal offices were opened and 28 new letter boxes set up during the year. The total number of Anchal offices and letter boxes at the end of the year was thus 270 and 432 respectively. Of the former, 179 were departmental offices and the remaining non-departmental. The increase in the number of Anchal offices and letter boxes during the past three years was 16 per cent. On an average there was an Anchal office or letter box for every 7 square miles of inhabited area in the State. The work of the department is supplemented by the British Postal Department which had during 1928 under its charge about 95 Post offices.

27. The total number of covers posted was 19,534,407. This exceeded the number for the previous year by 454,314. The increase was the result of a rise in the number of private and official covers and a fall in that of privileged covers. Private covers constituted 80 per cent of the total number, official covers 16 per cent and privileged covers 4 per cent.

28. The number of covers delivered during the year increased from 19,162,779, to 19,536,809 which gives an average of 33,057 covers to each peon to deliver against 34,665 in 1102. Each peon had therefore to deliver 91 covers per diem against 95 covers in 1102. The decrease was due to the enhancement of the strength of the peons. Including those in transmission or pending delivery at the end of the previous year and the number posted during the year for delivery in Travancore and those received from Cochin, the total number of articles for disposal was 20,239,966 of which 99.63 per cent were disposed of during the year.

29. The total number of value payable articles handled by the department rose from 91,824 to 94,706 of which 71 per cent were delivered and 27 per cent refused and returned to the senders. Insurance work was done in 14 offices which handled 151 articles. All these articles were delivered during the year.

30. Hundi business was transacted in all the 270 Anchal offices. There were inland and foreign hundies, revenue hundi and Government revenue remittance

*Hundies Issued* hundi. The total number of hundies rose from 341,304 for Rs. 45.29 lakhs to 363,801 for Rs. 48.41 lakhs.

*and Paid.* There was therefore an increase of 22,497 hundies for Rs. 3.12 lakhs. Of the total number 98 per cent constituted inland hundies. Foreign hundies related to the reciprocal hundies between Travancore and Cochin. Travancore hundies for Rs. 2.42 lakhs were paid in Cochin while Cochin hundies for Rs. 1.06 lakhs were paid in Travancore.

31. Savings Bank work was introduced in 11 more offices during the year, thereby increasing the number of *Savings Bank* such offices to 96. Deposits amounted to Rs. 39.39 lakhs and withdrawals to Rs. 37.07 lakhs, the corresponding figures for the previous year being Rs. 35.40 lakhs and Rs. 35.09 lakhs respectively. The balance held by the Savings Banks at the close of the year was Rs. 25.13 lakhs.

32. Of the 49,153 articles received in the Dead Letter Office during the year, 23,633 were destroyed, 18,077 redirected to parties, 4,360 finally disposed of as dead and the balance returned to the Cochin Anchal Superintendent and the Postal Superintendent.

33. The Anchal Mail lines comprised a total length of 1,318  $\frac{1}{2}$  miles or 24 miles less than that in the previous year.

*Anchal Mail* The decrease in the length of the runner service was consequent on the introduction of motor services between new places in replacement of the old runner service. The transport of mails was carried out by railway for a distance of 110  $\frac{1}{2}$  miles, by motor for 296  $\frac{1}{2}$  miles and by runner for 912  $\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Motor service is available in the following lines:—

Trivandrum—Nagercoil.

Quilon—Alleppey.

Kottarakara—Kottayam.

Kottayam—Parur.

Kottayam—Mundakayam.

Mundakayam—Kumili.

Trivandrum Town—Trivandrum Railway  
Station.

The extension of similar service from Nagercoil to Cape Comorin, from Alleppey to Arur and from Devicolum to Marayur has also been sanctioned.

34. The number of complaints for disposal during the year was 372 of which 365 were disposed of and 7 were under investigation. The result of the disposal was

*Miscellaneous.* that in 110 cases the subordinates concerned were punished and the remaining 265 complaints were found to be groundless. Two subordinates were dismissed, the services of 3 were dispensed with, 24 were placed under suspension, 2 were reduced and several fined. The disposal by sale of 18,304 small packets of quinine was attended to by the several Anchal offices.

35. The receipts and expenditure of the Anchal Department for the past three years are as follows:-

|             | 1101     | 1102     | 1103     |
|-------------|----------|----------|----------|
|             | Rs.      | Rs.      | Rs.      |
| Receipts    | 3,33,741 | 3,49,762 | 3,79,737 |
| Expenditure | 3,21,652 | 3,11,067 | 3,22,951 |

The receipts of the department rose by Rs. 29,975 and the working expenses by Rs. 11,884. Thus, the net receipts of the department increased from Rs. 38,695 to Rs. 56,786.

## CHAPTER X.

### COMMERCE.

#### Trade.

The following statement shows the total value of external trade :—

*Total value of Trade.*

|                          | Value in crores. |       |       | Percentage to total trade. |      |      |
|--------------------------|------------------|-------|-------|----------------------------|------|------|
|                          | 1101             | 1102  | 1103  | 1101                       | 1102 | 1103 |
|                          | Rs.              | Rs.   | Rs.   |                            |      |      |
| Exports ...              | 10·27            | 11·41 | 11·84 | 63                         | 65   | 59   |
| Imports ...              | 5·94             | 6·16  | 8·24  | 37                         | 35   | 41   |
| Total value of trade ... | 16·21            | 17·57 | 20·08 |                            |      |      |

It will be seen from the above that the trade of the country has appreciably increased during the past triennium and that inevitably exports predominate over imports.

2. Of the external trade, 31·02 per cent was carried by sea, 39·31 by backwater, 19·62 by road and 10·05 by railway. The corresponding percentages in the previous year were 32·02 ; 35·77 ; 21·81 and 10·40 respectively.

3. Although the total volume of exports increased during the year, there was a fall in the exports of coir, cables, arecanuts,

*Imports and  
Exports.*

jaggery, ginger, tamarind, molasses, pepper and cardamom, while there was a noticeable rise in the exports of copra, cocoanuts, coconut oil, punnac, coffee, hides, fish, timber, coir mats, coir matting, rubber and tea. With regard to imports, there was a decrease in the imports of hardware, machinery and glassware and an increase under piece-goods, cotton goods, rice, paddy, tobacco, salt, gingelly oil, liquor and sundries. The *per capita* value of the imports was Bh.

Rs. 20·6; of the exports Bh. Rs. 29·5 and

*Economic bearing* of the total trade Bh. Rs. 50·1 against Bh. Rs. 15·4, Bh. Rs. 28·4 and Bh.

Rs. 43·8 respectively in 1102. The balance of external trade in favour of this country was Rs. 8·9 per head of population against Rs. 13 in 1102. The approximate value of the trade in the produce of the cocoanut tree was Rs. 3·69 crores of which Rs. 2·78 crores represented dutiable articles and the duty on this was 51·8 per cent of the receipts from the total export duties of the State. The value fell short of that for the previous year by Rs. 28 crore. The total value of rice and paddy imported during the year was nearly Rs. 3·16 crores or Rs. 1·17 crores more than that for the previous year. The increase in the import of rice and paddy was due to the poor production of food grains in the State as a result of unfavourable seasonal conditions. The total value of the exports of tea was Rs. 3·09 crores and of rubber Rs. 83·14 lakhs.

4. Of the entire trade, 88·62 per cent was with British India, 4·32 per cent with the United King-

*Direction of  
Trade.*

dom, 3·15 per cent with America, 1·73 per cent with Ceylon, 0·06 with Pondicherry and Marseilles and 2·12 per cent with other countries.

## Ports.

*Principal Port Officer.* Capt. G. Leverett.

5. The Marine Department attends to the working of the following statutory enactments:—

*General.*

- (i) The Ports Regulation, I of 1094;
- (ii) The Native Passenger Ships Regulation, I of 1050;

(iii) The Registration of Ships Regulation, II of 1095; and

(iv) The Public Canals and Ferries Regulation, VI of 1096, so far as testing the fitness of steam vessels navigating inland waterways is concerned. The department also controls shipping and the boats plying within ports, attends to the light houses maintained by Government at the ports and at the important navigation centres of Aryad and Pallom in the backwaters and advises Government in marine matters generally.

6. The weather was on the whole very favourable for shipping. There was no disturbed weather on

*Weather.* the Travancore coast and the monsoon was weak. As a result, there were no casualties to shipping during the year.

7. Shipping continued to be brisk throughout the year.

*Shipping.* Even during the monsoon months of June and July, the number of steamers which called at ports increased from 30 in 1102 to 36 in 1103. The extent of shipping during the past three years may be gathered from the annexed statement:—

| Ports.     | No of Steamers. |      |      | No. of country craft. |      |      | Tonnage. |         |         |
|------------|-----------------|------|------|-----------------------|------|------|----------|---------|---------|
|            | 1101            | 1102 | 1103 | 1101                  | 1102 | 1103 | 1101     | 1102    | 1103    |
| Alleppey   | 269             | 307  | 342  | 23                    | 41   | 103  | 623,772  | 714,896 | 777,730 |
| Quilon     | 30              | 13   | 14   | 58                    | 108  | 57   | 20,424   | 25,556  | 48,002  |
| Trivandrum | 16              | 20   | 22   | 2                     | ..   | 12   | 50,696   | 61,315  | 68,295  |
| Calicut    | 15              | 12   | 24   | 22                    | 21   | 30   | 49,755   | 45,000  | 75,034  |
| Total      | 310             | 354  | 403  | 103                   | 170  | 204  | 769,653  | 846,767 | 970,061 |

The steady increase in the number of steamers and country craft is encouraging and is an index of the growing seaborne trade carried. Of the 342 steamers which anchored at Alleppey, 78 were destined for foreign ports and the rest were engaged in coastal trade. The increase in native craft was due to the larger imports of salt from Manakudy. The decrease in the number of country craft in Quilon port was due to the smaller imports of salt at the port and also to a fall in the export of tiles by these craft during the year. Of the 24 steamers which called at Colachel 12 were bound for foreign ports. This exceeded the number for the previous year by 8 and was due to larger exports of monazite, ilmenite and zircon.

8. The ports of Travancore are very favourably situated in regard to all trade routes between Australia and the East and Europe and America. The additional

*Situation of Travancore Ports.* distance which a vessel has to travel from Colombo by deviating from its course to visit the ports in Travancore and the ports of Cochin and Tuticorin is as follows:—

|            |   |          |
|------------|---|----------|
| Colachel   | — | 9 miles. |
| Trivandrum | — | 14 „     |
| Quilon     | — | 23 „     |
| Alleppey   | — | 45 „     |
| Cochin     | — | 67 „     |
| Tuticorin  | — | 80 „     |

There are deep water anchorages fairly close inshore at all the four Travancore ports—particularly at Trivandrum and Colachel; and as no piloting to moorings is necessary, ships can call at the ports and after discharging or loading cargo, resume their ocean routes without much loss of time.

9. The steam derricks installed on the pier at Alleppey continued to work satisfactorily. Additional trollies were constructed during the year. The enlargement and improve-

*Alleppey Port.* ment of the seaward end of the commercial canal were completed and facilities for lifting and loading cargo provided in the new boat-basin. A new customs godown was under construction. Arrangements have also been made with the Government of

India for the construction of a telephone system at Alleppey and a trunk line between Alleppey and Cochin.

*Telephone system.* The work will soon be started by the Indian Telegraph Department. The negotiations for this purpose were commenced at the instance of the merchants of Alleppey and in the interests of Cochin-Alleppey trade and commerce. The Alleppey mud bank continued in position off the port during the year ensuring perfectly smooth water for shipping.

*Mud Bank.* But on the 10th August 1928, Alleppey witnessed the unusual spectacle of the sea having in a few hours receded some little away from the shore. The phenomenon was immediately investigated on the spot by the Chief Engineer and the Port Officer. It was found that the mud had risen and displaced the sea rather than that the latter had receded and left the mud exposed. This was due to very heavy seas in southern waters and to the action of littoral currents. The pier and cargo boats lying moored alongside acted as a groyne and caused some mud in suspension to deposit, forming a bank visible above water at low tide for three quarters of the length of the pier. It extended seaward, shoaling the water off the end of the pier with the result that deeply laden cargo boats were unable at low tide to get within 600 feet of the pier. At low tide, heavily loaded lighters had some difficulty after loading alongside the pier in putting out to deep water to vessels in port and in returning to the pier through the heavy mud precipitation for some little distance beyond the pier-head. This difficulty was overcome by the Port Officer by arranging to haul the lighters in and out by cables playing on buoys anchored at the edge of deep water and worked by steam winches on the pier. This arrangement, which was necessary only at low tide, caused no inconvenience to shippers and the work of the port proceeded in a normal manner. There was thus no interruption to shipping. The mud was about 8 feet deep at the pier end, gradually decreasing seaward. The situation has returned to normal since the close of the year.

10. The receipts and expenditure under ports during the  
*Receipts and* past three years are shown below :—  
*Expenditure.*

|             | 1101   | 1102   | 1103   |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|
|             | Rs.    | Rs.    | Rs.    |
| Receipts    | 48,727 | 51,654 | 60,401 |
| Expenditure | 26,509 | 32,042 | 25,100 |

The receipts increased by Rs. 8,747 while the expenditure decreased by Rs. 6,942. The net receipts increased from Rs. 19,612 to Rs. 35,301.

## CHAPTER XI.

### MEDICAL RELIEF AND VITAL STATISTICS.

#### Medical Department.

##### Members of the Administrative Board, Medical Services.

|                                                     |                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Inspecting Medical Officer.</i>                  | <i>Dr. K. Raman Tampi, B. A.</i><br>(Madras), M. D., D. T. M. H.<br>(Edn.), L. M. (Dublin),<br>M. O. S. F. R. S. M. (London). |
| <i>Senior Surgeon, Women's<br/>Medical Service.</i> | <i>Mrs. M. Poonen Lukose, B. A.</i><br>(Madras), M. B., B. S.<br>(London), L. M. (Rotunda).                                   |
| <i>Non-official Member.</i>                         | <i>Dr. A. C. Rendle, M. D.</i><br>(till 1-7-1103).                                                                            |
|                                                     | <i>Dr. W. A. Noble, M. D.</i><br>(from 1-7-1103).                                                                             |

The European system of medical aid was first introduced in the State during the reign of Her Highness Gowri Lakshmi Bai in 986 M. E. (1811 A.D.). This

*State Medical Aid—A Retrospect.* method of treatment was at first confined to the members of the Ruling Family and officers of Government. It was subsequently extended to prisoners and then to the general public. The first hospital was opened about 992 M. E. (1817 A. D.). The first Darbar Physician was also appointed about this time. In 1036 M. E. (1860 A. D.) there were about seven medical institutions in the State. An asylum for the insane was first opened in 1054 (1878-9) and a leper hospital in 1897. The number of medical institutions in 1060 M. E. (1884-5) was 31. Private medical institutions were awarded grants from 1062 (1886-7). A

regular system of medical grants to encourage private agency in the field of medical relief was sanctioned in 1071. The opening of a separate Women and Children's Hospital was sanctioned in 1070 (1894—5). A hospital for incurables was established in 1072 (1896—7). An ophthalmic hospital was started in 1081 (1905—6). Sisters of the Holy Cross were first entertained as nurses in 1082 (1906—7). An X-ray section was opened for the first time in 1088 (1912—3) and this was replaced in 1927 by a new installation of the latest kind. Women were first entertained in 1044 to be trained as obstetric and sick nurses. The existing Medical Department is the growth of over a century; but hardly three decades have elapsed since persons possessing university diplomas in medical science began to be available for service in the department.

2. The Medical Department was under the charge and control of the Darbar Physician until the 29th Vrischigam 1101, when that office was held in abeyance and

*Control.*

the department was placed as an experimental measure under a Board termed "The Administrative Board, Medical Services." The Board is composed of three members, *viz.*, (a) the Inspecting Medical Officer, (b) the Senior Surgeon, Women's Medical Service, and (c) a non-official member belonging to the medical profession. The office of the Board is placed in charge of a whole time Secretary who is not a medical man. The Senior Surgeon, Women's Medical Service, was appointed at the time of the organisation of the Board and the question of the formation of a separate Women's Medical Service is engaging the attention of Government. This is the only department which is managed by a Board and in the management of which a non-official has also been associated. The management of the department by the Board has so far been satisfactory. The Board held 48 meetings during the year.

3. Dr. W. A. Noble of the Salvation Army who left the State on leave in the previous year returned from leave and took charge of his duties

*Personnel.*

from Dr. Rendle as a member of the Board on the 1st Medom 1103.

4. The long established policy of the Government has been to see that proper medical aid is placed within the reach of all classes of people. Accordingly, free medical service and a free supply of medicines are placed at the public disposal in all medical institutions maintained by Government and to supplement the activities of the Governmental agency in this direction, a regular system of medical grants-in-aid is also in force.

5. New dispensaries were opened during the year at Pampadi, Kuruvilangad, Kalavoor, Edathwa, Ayicudi, Varkalai, Vizhinjam, Karupanpadi and Kodanad. In all these places, the local *Medical Institutions and Officers*. people readily came forward and gave the requisite furniture and suitable buildings for the dispensaries. The number of Government medical institutions in the State during the past four years is shown in the following statement.

| Year. | Number of Hospitals. | Dispensaries. | Total. |
|-------|----------------------|---------------|--------|
| 1100  | 31                   | 35            | 66     |
| 1101  | 31                   | 36            | 67     |
| 1102  | 31                   | 42            | 73     |
| 1103  | 31                   | 51            | 82     |

The number of medical institutions rose from 66 to 82 or by nearly 25 per cent. The percentage of increase during the decennium preceding 1100 M. E. was 16. Grant-in-aid hospitals increased from 16 in 1100 to 18 in 1103. The number of Surgeons and Deputy Surgeons in the State service remained the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, 4 and 17 respectively. The total permanent strength of the professional staff of qualified medical persons was 135 of whom 13 were women. Amongst the permanent officers of the department, there

are 11 who hold European degrees or diplomas and 38 who hold Indian University degrees. Amongst the 13 women medical officers in the service, 3 hold European degrees and 3 Indian University degrees.

6. The total number of patients treated in Government and aided institutions together was 1,519,711 of whom 1,482,991 were out-patients and 36,720 were in-patients. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 1,536,399; 1,501,298, and 35,101 respectively. The daily average of in-patients was 1,456 and that of out-patients 9,871. The number of out-patients treated in Government institutions fell from 1,337,221 in 1102 to 1,313,589 in 1103 and the number of in-patients increased, from 28,311 to 29,337. The largest number of out-patients was treated in the Fort Hospital, Trivandrum, as in the previous year, the daily average being 410 against 397 in 1102. The General Hospital comes next with an average of 318 followed by the Parur District Hospital, with an average of 306. The total number of surgical operations in hospitals increased from 49,984 to 55,597. The accommodation provided for in-patients in all the institutions together was 2,356, or an increase of 99 beds over the number for the previous year. The percentage of mortality to in-patients was 3.62 against 3.73 in 1102. The average cost to Government of treating a patient throughout his illness was chuckrams 13 and cash 3 (As. 7-pies 4.84), against chuckrams 12 and cash 15 (As. 7-pies 3.16) in 1102. The cost to Government of diet for in-patients was Rs. 2-18-2 against Rs. 2-18-6.

7. The treatment and care of expectant mothers and of infants received careful attention. The midwives attached to the several medical institutions continued to do sustained health and welfare work by a system of house to house visiting, by proper instruction in antenatal cases and by tending new born children. Their popularity was evidenced by the circumstance that their services were often requisitioned even in remote

villages. A batch of 8 stipendiary and 6 non-stipendiary students completed their two years' course in the midwifery class opened in the Victoria Hospital, Quilon, and passed the final examination by the end of the year. They are being appointed as vacancies arise. The number of midwives in the department rose from 75 to 82. They attended 9,299 cases of labour, or an average of 113 cases for each midwife.

8. Efficient nursing in the State hospitals was introduced in 1906 by the employment of 8 European Roman Catholic

Sisters of the Holy Cross. The good work  
*Nursing Staff.* done by these Sisters resulted in the  
gradual increase in their numerical strength.

There were at the end of the year 28 European Sisters working in seven hospitals in the State. As the demand for good nursing increased, the Government opened nursing classes to train Indian nurses. Two batches of 25 Indian nurses have already been trained and entertained in the department. A batch of 13 nurses completed their 2 years' training in the Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum, and passed the final examination at the end of the year. They are being entertained in the various hospitals. The nursing staff at the end of the year consisted, besides the 28 European Nursing Sisters, of 4 Indian Nursing Sisters, 27 trained Indian nurses and 23 sick nurses.

9. The Government stipendiary student in the Madras Medical College completed her course for the M. B., B. S. degree and returned to the State after

*Medical Edu-* passing the final examination. She was  
*cation.* entertained in the department since the  
close of the year. Two more scholarships

were awarded to two women to study for the M. B., B. S. course in the Madras Medical College and two scholarships were granted for the L. M. P. course in the Medical School for Women at Vellore. A capitation grant of Rs. 500 per annum is also being paid to this school.

10. Injection treatment for lepers was continued in Chavara, Karunagapally and Kayankulam where leprosy is very prevalent.

*Dispensary Treatment of Leprosy.* Intensive Iodine treatment was given in several cases and the results are being watched. A leper survey of Travancore has been started during the current year by a Leper Commission deputed by the School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta.

11. Tuberculosis claims every year a large number of victims. The toll of mortality from this disease is particularly heavy in towns. Dispensary treatment for the disease was carried on at

*Treatment of Tuberculosis.* Trivandrum, Quilon, Alleppey, Kottayam and Nagercoil. The patients were given advice and treatment and their progress was watched. The question of opening a sanatorium, where early cases may be satisfactorily treated and where the people may be educated in the infectivity of the disease and in the methods of prevention, is engaging the attention of the Government.

12. The investigation made during the year by Dr. Kendrick of the Rockefeller Foundation has disclosed the extensive range this disease has affected and the

*Ankylostomiasis.* urgent need for an intensive campaign to eradicate it. The medical officers of all institutions have accordingly been directed to give hookworm treatment for all suspected cases. The department has also realised the necessity to educate people in preventive methods, an activity which pertains to the public health department and which will be attended to as soon as such a department on modern lines is organised with the help and advice of the Rockefeller Foundation.

13. There were 407 medico-legal cases and 75 pathological cases in which post-mortem examinations were conducted.

*Post-mortem.*

Special Institutions.

14. The number of in-patients treated in the General Hospital rose from 4,161 to 4,669, while that of out-patients fell from 40,657 to 40,615. The number of

*General Hos-* surgical operations, both major and minor,  
*pital, Trivandrum.* decreased from 2,237 to 2,044. The general mortality among in-patients excluding deaths from operations was 148, i. e., 3.1 per cent. Mortality among operated cases increased from 13 to 17. A special branch of electro-therapeutics was opened during the year in the institution and X-ray work was started early in the year.

15. The number of in-patients decreased from 4,236 to 4,205 and that of out-patients also fell from 30,920 to 29,836. Surgical operations increased

*Women and* from 1,429 to 1,739. There were 51  
*Children's Hospi-* deaths among in-patients. Six obstetric  
*tal, Trivandrum.* cases proved fatal. Mortality among gynae-  
cological cases was 2.

16. The total number of in-patients increased from 2,509 to 2,613 and of out-patients from 40,843 to 48,126. There was also an increase in the  
*Victoria* total number of operations, particularly abdo-  
*Hospital, Quilon.* minal, and in the number of obstetric cases.

17. The number of in-patients decreased while that of out-patients and operations increased during the year. The institution was growing in popularity and attracted patients even from outside the State. The results of treatment  
*Ophthalmic Hos-*  
*pital, Trivandrum.* were satisfactory.

18. There were at the commencement of the year 220 lepers and 2 untainted children. The number of admissions during the year was 355 and 344 were discharged.

*Hospital for* The number at the end of the year consisted  
*Lepers, Trivan-* of 231 lepers and 2 untainted children. The  
*drum.* results of treatment were that 4 recovered, and 116 improved, while 188 were otherwise discharged and 36 died. The main causes of mortality were alimentary troubles and Bright's disease. The entertainment of four Sisters of the Holy Cross for the nursing of lepers has been fruitful of

satisfactory results. The average cost to Government per annum on account of diet per in-patient was about Rs. 78. This does not include the cost of luxuries supplied, viz., tobacco, betel, arecanuts, beedies, cocoanut and gingelly oil for baths, and fish.

19. There were at the beginning of the year 131 in-patients. Thirty-three were admitted and 39 discharged during the year. The number remaining at the end

*Hospital for  
Mental Diseases,  
Trivandrum.*

of the year was 123. The inmates engaged themselves in industries such as mat-making, jamakals and towel weaving and worked in the gardens. They were also permitted the recreation of foot-ball within the grounds and under proper supervision.

20. The institution continued to do good work in the directions of clinical bacteriology, pathology, public health, analysis of water, the preparation of prophylactic

*Bacteriological  
Laboratory.*

vaccines etc. Antirabic treatment was also carried on, the number of cases treated being 231. Medical officers used the laboratory to a greater extent than before and the popularity of the institution is proved by the greater demand in the State and even from outside Travancore for the stock vaccine prepared in it.

21. The receipts and expenditure of the Medical Department during the past three years are shown below:—

|               | 1101         | 1102         | 1103          |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Receipts      | Rs.<br>8,770 | Rs.<br>9,129 | Rs.<br>13,139 |
| Salaries      | 2,20,837     | 2,33,685     | 2,51,917      |
| Establishment | 1,17,591     | 1,24,870     | 1,33,388      |
| Allowances    | 15,674       | 15,895       | 19,322        |
| Supplies and  |              |              |               |
| Contingencies | 3,20,225     | 4,23,001     | 3,77,300      |
| Grants, etc.  | 20,995       | 19,999       | 23,974        |
| Total         | 6,95,322     | 8,17,450     | 8,05,901      |

The receipts increased by Rs. 4,010 and the total expenditure decreased by Rs. 11,549. This decrease was the result of a substantial reduction in expenditure under supplies, services and contingencies.

#### Department of Ayurveda.

*Director.* Mr. K. Sankara Menon, M. A., L. T.

22. Ayurveda or science of life is a system of treatment which dates from remote antiquity. The system is Indian, pure and simple, and comprises medicine and surgery. The system has long been popular in the country and a practitioner is called a *vaidyan*. There is no village without its *vaidyan*. An Ayurveda Patasala was started by Government in 1065 (1889—90) and a system of grant-in-aid to qualified *vaidyans* was also sanctioned. The department was thoroughly reorganised ten years ago. The main features of the reorganisation were the revision of the curricula of studies in Ayurveda schools on an up to date and scientific basis to suit modern requirements and the establishment of an Ayurvedic Hospital and Dispensary at Trivandrum. The Ayurveda Patasala was raised to a college three years later. The activities of the department have transplanted the centres of instruction in Ayurveda from the homes of reputed Ayurvedic *vaidyans* to special well organised institutions with up to date equipments and methods of teaching. The successful candidates emerging from the Ayurveda College and the aided Ayurveda High Schools are fast supplanting the innumerable self-trained Ayurveda practitioners in the State.

23. The Ayurveda Hospital and Dispensary at Trivandrum continued to be popular. This was the only institution of the kind maintained by Government. Similar hospitals and dispensaries are conducted by private Ayurvedic practitioners throughout the State some of whom have been encouraged by Government by a system of grants-in-aid. The total number of grant-in-aid *vaidyasalas* rose

*Ayurvedic  
Hospitals and  
Dispensaries.*

from 113 to 118. These were graded into four classes, of which the first class received a grant of Rs. 30 and the 4th class Rs. 15 per mensem. One of these was a Unani Vaidyasala. Besides the *vaidyasalas* which receive grants in aid from Government, there were a few *vaidyasalas* which were situated within municipal limits and which were supported out of municipal funds. The Ayurveda Pharmacy at Trivandrum prepared and supplied the necessary medicines required for the Ayurveda Hospital and Dispensary.

24. The number of in-patients treated in the Ayurveda Hospital fell from 139 to 132. Of these 95 were cured, 26 were relieved, 2 died, 1 was discharged and 8 remained under treatment at the close of the year. There were 8 beds for the accommodation of

patients. The average daily number of occupied beds was 7. The average daily cost of diet for an in-patient was a little over As. 4. The total number of out-patients also fell from 34,690 to 33,649. This gives an average daily attendance of 245 against 252 in 1102. The ward opened in the previous year for the treatment by massage of fractures and dislocation of bones continued to be popular and 726 patients underwent treatment therein. The total number of patients treated by the grant-in-aid vaidyans rose from 317,836 to 374,583 of whom 93 per cent were cured, 3 died and the rest were discharged or undergoing treatment at the end of the year.

25. The Ayurveda College at Trivandrum is the only institution of the kind in the State and is maintained by Government. The strength of the College rose *Ayurveda College* from 134 to 145 of whom 11 were women students. The College prepares students for the Vaidya Sastri and Vaidya Kalanidhi examinations, the entire course of which extends to 5 years. The former marks the termination of the High School course and the latter the College. The Ayurveda Acharya examination is the highest test of proficiency conducted by the Ayurveda Department on the best thesis on approved subjects bearing on Ayurveda. Another examination called Visha Vaidya Visarada is also held by the

department to test proficiency of candidates in the cure of poisons. Of the 35 candidates including 7 private students who appeared for the Vaidya Kalanidhi examination, 25 inclusive of 4 private candidates, were found eligible for the diploma. Nineteen appeared for the Visha Vaidya Visarada examination and 5 alone were declared successful. Eight candidates from the College out of 14 came out successful in the Vaidya Sastri examination.

26. There are no Government Ayurveda High Schools in the State except the one attached to the Ayurveda College.

*Ayurveda High Schools.* There are, however, private aided Ayurveda High Schools of which four were in existence during the year under report, with a total strength of 199 students against 179 in

1102. Thirty-eight candidates from these schools appeared for the Vaidya Sastri examination and 27 passed.

*Receipts and Expenditure.* 27. The receipts and expenditure of the department during the past three years are as follows:—

|              | 1101.  | 1102.  | 1103.  |
|--------------|--------|--------|--------|
|              | Rs.    | Rs.    | Rs.    |
| Receipts.    | 5,367  | 5,633  | 6,207  |
| Expenditure. | 55,037 | 58,958 | 61,407 |

The net expenditure of the department rose from Rs. 53,325 to Rs. 55,200.

#### Sanitation, Vaccination and Vital Statistics.

*Sanitary Commissioner.*

*Mr. J. J. Chandy, L. M. S.*

28. In August 1895, a special department was organised to conduct vaccination, to collect vital statistics and to look after sanitation; and it was placed under the

*General.*

charge of an officer styled the Sanitary Commissioner. The activities of the department comprised the whole State except the tracts covered by

municipalities. The Sanitary Department therefore represents the public health department under Government, although its attention is at present restricted to the collection, registration and tabulation of vital statistics, the management of vaccination in non-municipal areas, both rural and urban, and to rural sanitation. It is noteworthy that vaccination was first introduced into the State in 1813. Opposition to vaccination was overcome in those early days by the members of the Ruling Family getting themselves vaccinated at the time. A vaccine depot was opened in 1888. The reorganisation of the Sanitary Department in collaboration with the American Rockefeller Foundation is engaging the attention of Government.

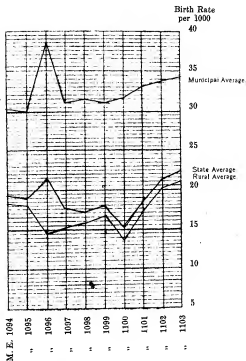
29. Although the registration of vital statistics continued to be compulsory throughout the State, the striking variations which

*Births and  
Deaths.*

are disclosed from year to year in the returns militate against the reliability of the figures furnished. The total number of births registered during the year rose from 85,814 to 91,070 of which 47,191 were males and 43,879 were females. The birth rate was 22.73 per 1,000 of the census population against 21.42 in 1102. For every 100 female births, the male births numbered 108. A total of 42,225 deaths comprised of 22,059 males and 20,166 females, was registered against 42,994 deaths in the previous year. The death rate during the year was 10.54 per 1,000 of the census population against 10.73 in 1102. For every 100 females who died, there were 109 male deaths. In regard to infantile mortality, the number registered was 16,977, giving a ratio of 76.6 per 1,000 of the live births. This has fallen short of the rate recorded in the previous year by 5.83. Births exceeded deaths by 48,845. This increase was contributed by Hindus to the extent of 54 per cent, by Christians 38 per cent and by Mahomedans 5 per cent.

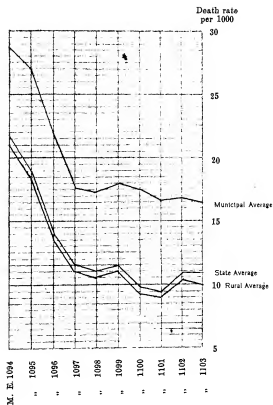
30. The chief epidemics which broke out during the year in different parts of the State were cholera, small-pox and plague. The heaviest toll of mortality was from cholera, viz., 772. Deaths from small-pox numbered 13 and those from

# BIRTH RATE IN TRAVANCORE.

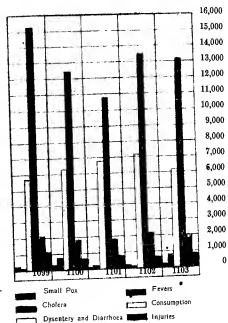


Lilley, T. A. P. Works, Travancore.

# DEATH RATE IN TRAVANCORE.



# NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES.



plague 6. These statistics revealed not so much the range and rigour of the attacks as the continuance of a state of vulnerability of parts of the State to epidemics. The taluks affected by cholera were Tovala, Agasteeswaram, Kalkulam, Vilavancode, Chirayinkil and Shencotta. The disease prevailed in these taluks in a virulent epidemic form for over six months. Special medical squads were deputed to combat the spread of the disease in co-operation with the sanitary staff. Inoculation with anti-cholera vaccine, chlorination of wells and tanks, removal of grave sanitary defects and disinfection of infected materials were the measures adopted by the squads besides the curative measures carried out by them. Small-pox prevailed in a sporadic form in the taluks of Tovala, Trivandrum, Changanachery, Kunnathnad, Peermade and Devicolum. In spite of the adoption of drastic preventive measures, reference to which was made in the report for the previous year, the infection of plague from the north-east frontier taluks in British India spread to Travancore—in the Devicolum District. There were 11 attacks of which 6 succumbed to the disease. Several observation stations were opened in Devicolum, Kottayam and Quilon Divisions for conducting an effective observation of people and goods entering the State from infected areas. The preventive measures which were adopted in 1102 and continued during the year with greater rigour checked successfully the further spread of the disease.

31. The largest number of deaths, *viz.*, 13,108, was from fevers. Consumption and other respiratory diseases claimed 5,643. The total number of deaths

*Other Diseases.* from dysentery and diarrhoea was 6,142. The ratios of mortality from all these diseases were less than those for the previous year. Diabetes and carbuncle caused 1,553 deaths or 43 more than the number for the previous year.

32. Vaccination is compulsory only in the municipal areas of the State. A total of 251,511 vaccinations were performed during the year. This fell short of the

*Vaccination.* number for the previous year by 5,522 cases. The decrease was mainly under primary vaccinations to the extent of 7,614 cases, while re-vaccinations increased by 2,092 cases. The decrease was due

to the cessation of vaccination work, consequent on the deputisation of a few vaccinators on cholera and plague duty for a few months in the year. Primary vaccinations were successful in 9,749 cases. The percentage of re-vaccinations to total operations was 15 against 14 in 1102. The number of successful infantile vaccinations fell from 20,720 to 17,956. Each vaccinator had, on an average, performed 165 vaccinations a month while the minimum fixed was 150. The number of cases of vaccination verified by Sanitary Circle Officers fell from 61,912 to 50,510. This too was due to the absence of a few of these officers on plague and cholera work. The monthly average out-turn under verification, *viz.*, 526 cases, however, exceeded the minimum of 500 cases fixed by Government for each officer. Glycerine lymph which was tested at the King Institute of preventive medicine, Guindy, and which was found quite satisfactory, was issued from the Vaccine Depot for purposes of vaccination. The quantity of lymph manufactured was 200,386 grains of which 157,059 grains were issued for use. The average cost for a case of successful vaccination rose from As. 3-pies 6 to As. 3-pies 8. This is less than the corresponding cost in Madras.

33. Rural sanitation is attended to by the conservancy staff appointed in important rural tracts. This staff is in charge of vaccination as well as sanitation. The

*Rural Sanitation.* number of conservancy stations increased from 41 to 49 at the end of the year. The

department made necessary arrangements to maintain sanitation on thirty occasions of important fairs and festivals. Another direction in which the department devoted its attention was the maintenance of sanitation in non-municipal markets. Sanitary Circle Officers visited 142 rural markets and communicated their suggestions towards sanitary improvements for compliance by the Land Revenue Department which control these markets in close co-ordination with the Sanitary Department. The proper maintenance of wells sunk at the expense of Government for supplying protected drinking water in villages where it is scarce, is one of the functions which has devolved on the department and it is satisfactory that 75 wells were cleaned and repaired during the year.

34. The receipts and expenditure of the Sanitary Department during the past three years are shown in the subjoined statement:—

|             | 1101       | 1102   | 1103     |
|-------------|------------|--------|----------|
|             | Rs.        | Rs.    | Rs.      |
| Receipts    | ... 3,299  | 3,613  | 3,724    |
| Expenditure | ... 94,717 | 95,203 | 1,07,528 |

The net expenditure of the department rose from Rs. 91,590 to Rs. 1,03,804 or by Rs. 12,214. A further sum of Rs. 45,095 was spent during the year in connection with the measures adopted for the prevention of plague.

#### Chemical Examiner's Department.

*Chemical Examiner.* Mr. A. M. Jacob, B. A., M. B., C. M.

35. The Chemical Examiner's Department was organised in 1890 and has been doing useful work ever since. The number of articles received by the Chemical Examiner for toxicological examination rose from 532 to 614. These were involved in 177 cases. Of these, 40 related to cases of suspected human poisoning; 6 animal poisoning; 77 blood stains and 3 seminal stains. Poisons such as *corbora odallam*, arsenic compounds, morphia, sulphur, garlic, strychnine and acetic acid were detected in 25 cases. Thirty nine water analyses were also made during the year. Besides these, there were 9 miscellaneous cases for analysis, of which one case consisted of a small bone for identification, 3 cases of toddy and one case of a medical preparation called *lehiam*. The expenditure on the department during the year rose from Rs. 2,704 to Rs. 2,828.

## CHAPTER XII.

### PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

*Director of Public Instruction.* Mr. J. Stephenson, B. Sc.,  
(London) A. R. C. Sc.  
(On leave).

Rao Bahadur K. V. Rangaswami  
Aiyangar, M. A. (Acting).

From very early times, the village school master, styled the *Asan*, imparted vernacular education of a rudimentary character in the country. He was a self-constituted functionary and was remunerated by the people themselves. The principal subjects taught were reading, writing, arithmetic and the elements of astronomy necessary for the simple calculations required for domestic ritual and for determining the chief periods of agricultural operations. The old village schools taught boys and girls together. The State's direct activity in the field of education began over a century ago. The duty of the State to impart public instruction was recognised so long ago as 992 M. E. (1817) when Her Highness the Rani Gouri Parvathi Bai issued a rescript in which Her Highness resolved "that the State should defray the entire cost of the education of its people in order that there might be no backwardness in the spread of enlightenment among them, that by diffusion of education they might become better subjects and public servants and that the reputation of the State might be advanced thereby." The pioneers of English education in the country were the Christian Missions who opened two English schools, one at Kottayam and the other at Nagercoil between the years 1816-19 and they were given substantial aid from the Government in the shape of grants of land. The first Government English school was started in 1834 at Trivandrum, and this institution slowly

and steadily developed itself into the Maharaja's High School and College. An English school for girls was opened at Travandrum in 1863 by the Zenana Mission and next year was opened the Maharaja's English High School for girls which ultimately developed into a first grade college. The first Normal School was founded in 1885 and it developed in 1910 into the Training College. A Sanskrit school was opened in 1889 and it subsequently developed into the Sanskrit College. The Directorate was established in 1084 (1909) and this was followed next year by the promulgation of the Education and Inspection Codes which marked the inauguration of the existing educational system and educational policy.

2. The educational system of Travancore consists of three important branches, *viz.*, the vernacular schools, the English

*Educational* institutions for the training of teachers and  
*System.* special schools for the teaching of Sanskrit.

Vernacular schools are of three classes, *viz.*, primary schools, vernacular middle schools and vernacular high schools. Primary schools teach up to class IV, the course of instruction being mainly confined to reading, writing, elementary arithmetic and simple lessons in history and geography. In girls' schools, special attention is paid to singing, needle-work and domestic economy. Primary education is free throughout the State. Vernacular middle schools teach up to class VII and vernacular high schools up to class IX. At the end of the primary course, the pupil either pursues vernacular studies in vernacular middle and high schools or joins the preparatory class in the English middle schools. English middle schools teach up to Form III and English high schools consist of all or any of the Forms IV, V and VI. Facilities are provided for the admission of pupils with sufficient knowledge of English from vernacular middle schools to English middle schools, English being an optional second language in vernacular schools. The Vernacular School Leaving Certificate issued to candidates who pass class VII, confers eligibility for entertainment in the subordinate ranks of the public service. Similarly, the English School Leaving Certificate gives eligibility to University courses of study and to the

public service. On both the vernacular and English sides, there are separate schools for boys and for girls with practically the same course of instruction. Co-education of boys and girls is freely permitted up to class IV in the primary standard and has long been customary. In the case of higher classes and forms, co-education is allowed in places where separate schools or colleges for girls are not available. Girls pay only half the rates of fees prescribed for boys in schools and colleges. The colleges maintained by the Government as well as those by denominational agencies, are affiliated to the University of Madras. The importance of vernacular education has been recognised by the State, and vernacular schools have long been under a separate inspectorate. English education also has had an equally long history having begun about a century ago. The number of English schools, public and departmental, increased so largely as to necessitate a separate inspectorate. In the same way, female education, both English and vernacular, is under the control and guidance of an Inspector of Schools. A notable feature in the domain of education is the part played by private enterprise. All grades of schools, from the lowest primary standard to the highest college course, are run by private agencies. These agencies share with the Government the task of public instruction and receive substantial grants-in-aid from Government. Religious instruction is not imparted in Sirkar Schools, but private schools, particularly those managed by denominational agencies, are free to impart it outside school hours.

3. In the matter of education, the Government have always pursued a liberal and progressive policy and the remarkable advance in education made during the past

*Educational Policy.* few decades has been due to their sedulous and fostering care. Travancore now stands in the forefront of educated India. As regards primary education, its utmost importance has always been recognised and everything practicable is being done to make it universal. Government are now spending more than Rs. 41 lakhs or a little over 17 per cent of the State revenue on education. The further development of education in the country will have to depend more largely on State-aided private enterprise.

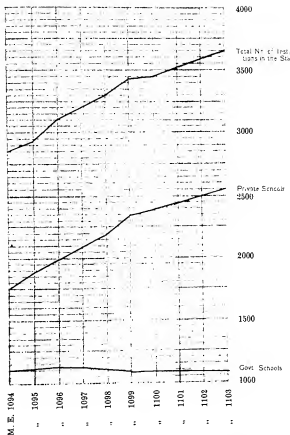
Consistent with the educational policy of the State, the education of backward communities has been systematically encouraged by the grant of special concessions and facilities to the students belonging to such communities. In addition to the schools and colleges where purely literary education is imparted, there are other institutions which are established for imparting professional and technical education. There is the Law College under the control of the High Court, the Ayurveda College under the Director of Ayurveda, Industrial and Technical Schools under the Director of Industries, the Forest School, the Survey Schools, the Agricultural School, Fishery Schools, etc. Quasi-educational institutions like the Trivandrum Public Library, the Museum and Public Gardens, and the Departments for the Preservation of Sanskrit and Malayalam Literature, are also maintained by Government.

#### General Statistics.

4. It will be observed from paragraph 1 above that the year 1084 marks the dawn of a new educational era. Hence, in explaining statistics pertaining to the year under report, a few comparisons are instituted with the figures for the year 1084 to indicate the progress achieved during a period of two decades. In 1084, besides Government schools, a distinction was made between aided and unaided schools. Under the latter category was a large number of unrecognised institutions which did not conform to recognised standards of efficiency and which therefore had an ephemeral existence under the action of the new Education Code. Private schools are now either recognised or unrecognised. Departmental schools which were 438 in 1084 with a total strength of 58,159, increased to 1081 with a strength of 237,461. Private schools decreased from 3,016 to 2,547 and their strength increased from 147,858 to 281,827. The average strength of a departmental school rose from 133 in 1084 to 219 in 1103 and that of a private school from 50 to 114. Departmental institutions which formed a little over an eighth of the aggregate number of educational institutions in 1084 rose in 1103 to a little less than a third. But the increase in the number and strength of recognised schools was phenomenal. The average departmental school attracted more pupils than the

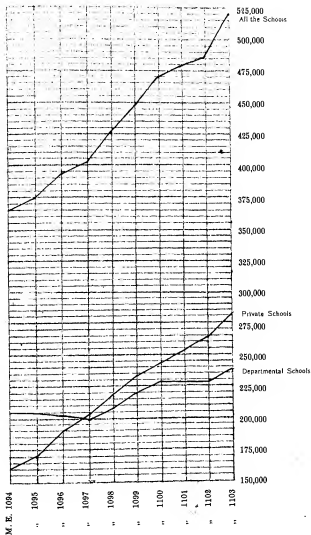
average aided school. The progress during the period is made manifest not so much by the increase in the number of educational institutions, *viz.*, 174, as by the rise in the number of the school-going population *viz.*, 313,271. The percentage of increase in the former was 5 and that in the latter 152. Compared with the previous year, the number of recognised institutions increased by 45 and the strength in them by 30,857. Departmental institutions decreased by 2 but the strength in them increased by 13,567. Private institutions increased in number and strength, the former by 47 and the latter by 17,290. The percentages of pupils in departmental institutions and in private institutions in relation to the total number under instruction were 45·7 and 54·3 respectively against 45·8 and 54·2 respectively in 1102. The number of aided institutions increased by 79. The largest number of institutions and pupils was in the Thiruvella taluk, *viz.*, 406 with 53,831 pupils, followed by Neyyattinkara with 237 schools containing 34,393 pupils and Kottayam having 211 schools with 32,241 pupils. Besides the above 3,628 recognised institutions, there were 386 unrecognised institutions with an aggregate strength of 16,269 pupils. The majority of these unrecognised schools were primary schools for boys. The total number of educational institutions, recognised and unrecognised, therefore rose from 3,959 with a strength of 502,867 pupils to 4,014 with a total strength of 535,557 pupils. There was thus on an average one school to every 1·89 square miles of the area and 998 of the inhabitants of the State. On the assumption that 15 per cent of the population represents the aggregate school-going element in the country, about 78 per cent of the aggregate population was under instruction during the year. Except certain inaccessible *pakuthies* of the Peermade and Devicolum taluks in the High Range, there was no *pakuthi* in the State which had not a school.

**EDUCATION**  
**Number of Institutions.**



# EDUCATION

Number under instruction in Departmental & Private Institutions.



5. The total strength of the several recognised educational institutions during the year is exhibited in the following statement :—

|                    |     | Number under instruction |         |                      |
|--------------------|-----|--------------------------|---------|----------------------|
|                    |     | 1102                     | 1103    | Variation<br>in 1103 |
| Colleges           | ... | 2,612                    | 2,554   | — 58                 |
| English Schools    | ... | 45,976                   | 48,150  | + 2,174              |
| Vernacular Schools | ... | 436,626                  | 465,144 | + 28,518             |
| Special Schools    | ... | 3,217                    | 3,440   | + 223                |
| Total              | ... | 488,431                  | 519,288 | + 30,857             |

The variation in the strength of the colleges was the result of a fall in the College of Science, College of Arts, the Sanskrit College, and the Scott Christian College, and of a rise in the College for Women, the Union Christian College, Alwaye, the St. Berchman's College, Changanachery and the C. M. S. College at Kottayam. The total strength of the English schools increased by 4·7 per cent and of the Vernacular schools by 6·5 per cent. The growth in the percentages reflects the growing desire for education in the country.

6. The increase of 30,857 pupils in recognised institutions was contributed by almost all the important communities in the State. The most noticeable increase was

*Progress of Education among certain Communities.* among the Romo-Syrians whose strength exceeded that of the previous year by 9,359. The Ezhavas increased by 6,482; the Jacobites by 6,106 and the Nairs by 4,394. The Nadars, the Pulayas, the Reformed Syrians, the Salvationists and the Mahomedans

increased more than a thousand each. The striking decrease was amongst the Congregationalists and 'other' Roman Catholics. There was a slight decrease in the number of pupils belonging to Malayala Nambudiries, Maras, Mukkuvans, Parayas and Nanjinad Vellalas. The Hindu pupils increased by 18,330, the Christians by 10,961, the Mahomedans by 1,148 and the Hill Tribes 423 while the Jews decreased by 5.

7. The parents or guardians of 51 per cent of the number under instruction in recognised institutions were either landlords or farmers of whom the latter were more numerous than the former. The next in order of numerical superiority were day labourers who constituted 14 per cent. These were followed by traders (12 per cent) Government servants (6 per cent) and others.

#### Direction.

8. Mr. J. Stephenson continued to be the Director of Public Instruction until the end of the third quarter of the year when he proceeded on leave. Rao Bahadur

*Direction and Administration.* K. V. Rangaswami Aiyangar was appointed to act as Director during the absence of the permanent incumbent on leave. The Director controls the entire Department of Public Instruction, assisted by an Inspector of English Schools, an Inspector of Vernacular Schools and an Inspectress of Girls' Schools. The Colleges of Arts and Science, the Training College, the College for Women and the Sanskrit College have their respective Principals who are responsible to the Director for the proper administration of these institutions.

9. The following may be mentioned amongst some of the outstanding events of the year :—

- |                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Outstanding Events.</i> | <p>(1) The draft of an education manual was completed.</p> <p>(2) Two more departmental schools were thrown open to pupils of all castes, classes and creeds, the number of schools not open to all communities being thus reduced to 12.</p> |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

(3) Travancoreans holding English School Leaving Certificates issued by the Cochin Government were declared eligible for appointment in the Education Department.

(4) Revised tentative rules for the conduct of orphanages under a scheme of grant-in-aid were framed and published to elicit public opinion.

(5) The building provided in the premises of the Sri Mula Vilasom School, Trivandrum, by Rao Sahib T. Padmanabha Rao for feeding a number of poor boys in the school was taken charge of by the department. Mid-day meals are provided from the income of an endowment by Mr. Padmanabha Rao.

(6) Government accepted a legacy of Rs. 20,000 left by the late Dewan Bahadur Sir P. Rajagopalachariar, formerly Dewan of Travancore, for the encouragement of education among Nair girls.

(7) A set of rules for the working of private Sanskrit schools was sanctioned by Government.

(8) The College for Women was raised to the first grade and it was affiliated in Natural Science in the intermediate course and in groups V and VI C of the B. A. course.

(9) Retiring rooms and other special conveniences were provided for girl pupils attending certain English schools for boys.

(10) The rules for regulating the Vernacular Higher Examination were revised during the year.

(11) A scheme for the medical inspection of students in the colleges in the State as well as of the hostels attached to the colleges, was sanctioned by Government and the first inspections were carried out during the year.

(12) The report of the committee appointed to devise means for the enhancement of salaries of teachers in vernacular schools and of grants-in-aid to teachers in such schools was considered by Government and the Legislative Council has during the current year voted an additional grant of Rs. 2 lakhs for making a suitable revision of the salaries.

## College Education.

10. There were 8 colleges in the State as in the previous year affiliated to the University of Madras. Of these 4 were departmental colleges and 4 aided. The

|                                         |                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Number and Strength of Colleges.</i> | number of students in these colleges fell from 2,507 to 2,454. All departmental colleges except one decreased in strength while all the aided colleges except one increased |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

in strength. The increase in the one departmental college was due to the opening of the Junior B. A. class in the College for Women. This increase was in effect a transfer of some of the women students from the other colleges for men. The decreases were striking in the Senior Intermediate and the Senior B. A. pass courses.

## His Highness the Maharaja's College of Science.

Principal.

*Mr. James Pryde, M. A., B. Sc.*

11. The College of Science prepared students for the B. A. degree in Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics and Natural Science. Candidates for the final honours examination in Mathematics were presented from the college for the first time during the year. The strength of the college fell from 802 to 748. The number of women students attending the college was 39 against 45 in 1102. The results of the University examinations were satisfactory and there were distinctions in Mathematics, Physics, Natural Science and Chemistry. One student took a first class in Botany and won the Pulney Andi gold medal awarded by the University of Madras. The number of volumes in the library increased from 8,291 to 8,877. The Collegiate Hostel accommodated 63 students and the remaining students resided in other approved hostels in Trivandrum or with their relations or in lodgings which were inspected by the college staff. The total expenditure on the college was Rs. 1,85,190 while the receipt from fees amounted to Rs. 71,015. The average annual cost per student was Rs. 238 of which Rs. 147 was contributed by Government and Rs. 91 met from fees.

His Highness the Maharaja's College of Arts.

*Principal.* Rao Bahadur K. V. Rangaswami  
Aiyangar, M. A.

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan, M. A. (Oxon).  
(Acting).

12. The College of Arts prepared students up to the B. A. degree standard in history, philosophy and languages with honours courses in history and English. The strength of the college fell from 551 to 483. The fall was largely due to the results in the history groups in the English School Leaving Certificate examination and the opening of the B. A. class in the College for Women. The number of women students in the college was 29 against 42 in 1102. The results of the University examinations were satisfactory, one student winning the Prince of Wales medal and another the Rama Rao gold medal of the Madras University. The library contained 19,124 volumes. Twenty-four students of the college resided in the Collegiate Hostel, 26 in the College Hostel, Taikad, and the rest in approved hostels and lodgings. The receipts of the college from fees amounted to Rs. 51,166 and the expenditure to Rs. 96,578. The average cost per student was Rs. 186 of which Rs. 87 was contributed by Government and Rs. 99 met from fees.

His Highness the Maharaja's College for Women.

*Principal.* Miss D. H. Watts, B. A.  
Miss E. C. Carrapiett, M. A., L. T.  
(Acting).

13. Reference has already been made above to the raising of the college to the first grade. The B. A. class was opened for the first time from the commencement of the current academic year. Miss D. H. Watts who was the Principal of the College since its establishment went on long leave and retired from service since the close of the year. Miss E. C. Carrapiett, the Inspectress of Girls' Schools was appointed to act as Principal pending the arrival of a Lady Principal from England. The teaching staff was revised and added to. The designation of tutors was

changed to lecturers. The college prepared students up to the B. A. degree standard in natural science, history and languages. The strength of the college rose from 87 to 112 of whom 51 were Hindus and 61 Christians. Of the 40 students who appeared for the intermediate examination, 26 passed the full examination and 8 in parts. Eighteen students resided in the Government College Hostel for Women and the rest in approved hostels and lodgings. The fee income for the year was Rs. 4,175 and the expenditure was Rs. 66,824. The net expenditure on the college rose from Rs. 35,416 to Rs. 62,649.

**Private Colleges.**

14. The following statement gives details of the private colleges in the State affiliated to the Madras University:—

| Name of College.                                                                   | Strength in |      | Remarks.                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------|--------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                    | 1102        | 1103 |                                                  |
| Union Christian College, Alwaye. (Principal, Mr. A. M. Varkki, M. A.)              | 302         | 317  | Residential 1st Grade College with four hostels. |
| St. Berchman's College, Changanachery. (Principal, Rev. Mathew Purakkal, M. A.)    | 394         | 401  | 1st Grade College with a hostel.                 |
| C. M. S. College, Kottayam. (Principal, Mr. C. K. Thomas, B. A., L. T., (Acting.)  | 179         | 205  | 2nd Grade College with a hostel.                 |
| Scott Christian College, Nagercoil. (Principal, Mr. G. H. Marsden, M. A. (Cantab.) | 143         | 138  | 2nd Grade College with 2 hostels.                |

## The Training College, Trivandrum.

*Principal.**Rao Bahadur K. V. Rangaswami  
Aiyangar, M. A.**Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan, M.A. (Oxon.) (Acting).*

15. The Training College consists of a graduate section and an undergraduate section. Fifty students were selected for training in the former section of whom 27 were from departmental schools in the State, 16 from private schools in the State and 7 from the neighbouring State of Cochin. Of the 27 from departmental schools, 3 were women. There were in the undergraduate section 49 students of whom 9 were women. In the L. T. degree examination 44 passed, 3 gaining distinction. The percentage of success was 89.8. The library had 9,184 volumes at the end of the year. The students lived either in the Training College Hostel or in other approved hostels and lodgings. A class in First Aid was held and was attended by all the students in the L. T. and undergraduate training classes. The total expenditure on the college was Rs. 37,831 and the fee income Rs. 10,640.

## The Sanskrit College.

*Principal.**Mr. V. Krishnan Thampi, B. A.*

16. The Sanskrit College is purely a State institution unconnected with the Madras University. The institution contains a high school course and the college proper. The strength of the college proper, i. e., of the Sastra section fell from 56 to 51 of whom 5 were women students. The Sastra section consisted of the Upadhyaya and the Mahopadhyaya classes, the former comprising 2 years and the latter 3 years. The high school course consisted of the Kavya and the Veda sections. The inspection of the college and the conduct of examinations vested in the Council of Visitors appointed by Government. The receipts of the college amounted to Rs. 167 and the expenditure to Rs. 20,005.

17. The total expenditure on college education, excluding the Sanskrit College, was Rs. 4,27,411 while the receipts amounted to Rs. 1,36,996. *Expenditure on College Education.* The net expenditure was thus Rs. 2,90,415.

## English Education.

18. The number of English schools in the State increased from 220 to 228 or by 8 and their strength from 45,976 to 48,150 or by 2,174. The number of departmental schools remained unaltered, *viz.*,

|                         |                                                                                  |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Number and</i>       | 41, but their strength decreased by 158.                                         |
| <i>Strength of</i>      |                                                                                  |
| <i>English Schools.</i> | Private schools increased from 179 to 187 and their strength also rose by 2,332. |

There were 20 departmental high schools for boys and 1 high school for girls. The total strength was 12,196. Private high schools increased from 42 to 44 of which 31 were boys' schools and 13 girls' schools. The strength of these private high schools was 16,661. The total strength of boys' schools increased from 40,607 to 42,412 and that of girls' schools from 5,369 to 5,738. The increase occurred both in high schools and in middle schools. Of the total number of pupils in English schools, 32,961 or 68 per cent were in private schools. The number of girls attending boys' schools was 4,690 against 4,216 in 1102. The largest number of girls studying in departmental boys' schools was in the Neyyattinkara high school for boys followed by the high school at Kayankulam. In private schools the largest number was in the St. Thomas High School, Kozhencheri, followed by the S. N. V. English High School, Nedunganda.

19. The pupils of all departmental schools underwent medical examination during the year, while three private schools alone provided for such inspection. The

|                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Medical</i>     | number of pupils who were examined for                                                                                                                                                             |
| <i>Inspection.</i> | the first time was 3,191 consisting of 2,033 in departmental high schools, 602 in departmental middle schools and 556 in private schools. The inspection was repeated in the case of 1,838 pupils. |

20. The number of candidates who appeared for the English School Leaving Certificate examination was 3,884 consisting of 3,461 boys and 423 girls. Certificates were issued to 3,182 candidates and 1,309 candidates, of whom

1,184 were boys and 125 girls, were declared eligible for admission to University courses of study.

21. The total expenditure on English education increased from Rs. 7,82,497 to Rs. 8,08,313. This

*Expenditure on English Education.* includes Rs. 1,48,027 awarded as grants during the year. The receipts fell from Rs. 3,74,349 to Rs. 3,62,328. The net expenditure was thus Rs. 4,45,985. The gross cost per pupil for all departmental schools taken together was Rs. 43.47 and the net cost Rs. 19.16.

#### Vernacular Education.

22. The number of vernacular schools in the State increased from 3,301 to 3,335 and their strength from 436,626 to 465,144 pupils. Of the 3,335 institutions, 2,891 were boys' schools with a total strength of 391,907 pupils and 444 girls' schools with a strength of 73,237 pupils. Of the boys' schools, 230 were high and middle schools with a strength of 84,575 pupils and 2,661 primary schools with a total strength of 307,332. High and middle schools for girls were 94 in number with a strength of 28,041, while the primary schools for girls numbered 350 with a strength of 45,196. The total number of departmental schools decreased from 1,023 to 1,021 of which 799 were boys' schools and 222 were girls' schools. The decrease was in girls' schools. The number of departmental high and middle schools for boys was 159 with a strength of 65,356, while there were 64 similar schools for girls with a strength of 19,352. Departmental primary schools were 798 in number of which 158 were girls' schools with a strength of 22,285, and 640 were boys' schools with a total strength of 113,115 pupils. The strength in primary schools, departmental as well as private, increased from 331,481 to 352,528. This increase occurred both in boys' and girls' schools and also in departmental and private institutions. The strength of pupils attending the lowest classes in all the vernacular schools represents 33 per cent of the total strength in vernacular schools. This percentage diminishes to 24 in class II, 20 in class III, 14 in class IV, 4 in class V and 2 in classes VI and VII.

23. The total number of candidates who appeared for the Vernacular School Leaving Certificate examination was 4,625 of whom 3,117 were boys and 1,508 were girls. Of these 1,419 were successful, consisting of 957 boys and 462 girls.

24. The double shift system was introduced as a tentative measure in 1924 for the purpose of bringing a larger number of pupils in certain areas under instruction without increasing the number of schools and the recurring charges on that account. According to the system, the same teacher gave instruction in the same class rooms for two different batches of pupils in the forenoon and in the after-noon respectively, the duration of the school day being reduced from 5 to 3 hours. The system became unpopular and ineffective and hence was abolished during the year.

25. These associations form a special feature of vernacular schools. One day in the month is set apart for the meeting of these associations which meet for the purpose of discussing methods of teaching and allied educational subjects. There were 161 associations which met 1,254 times in different centres and in which 11,096 teachers belonging to 2,527 schools participated. The percentage of attendance of departmental teachers was 83 and that of teachers in private schools was 70.

26. English was taught in 13 schools as a compulsory subject. This provided a liaison between the vernacular school and the English school. There were also 2 Anglo-vernacular schools in the High Range in which English was taught from the III class.

27. Tamil is the spoken language in the taluks of Tovala, Agastiswaram and Shencotta. In view of this circumstance, Malayalam was being replaced by Tamil in institutions in these taluks. The number of departmental schools which were originally wholly or partially Malayalam schools but which were

subsequently converted into Tamil schools was 31 of which 25 were boys' schools and 6 girls' schools. There were also 34 other departmental schools (24 boys' and 10 girls') which were started as purely Tamil schools.

28. The total expenditure on vernacular education was Rs. 23,76,602. This includes a sum of Rs. 7,50,029 awarded as grant-in-aid. The receipts amounted to Rs. 1,46,512.

*Expenditure on Vernacular Education.*

**Female Education.**

29. The number of recognised educational institutions for girls rose from 495 to 503 or by 8 and the total number of girls under instruction from 176,419 to 190,951 or by 14,532. Of these institutions, 230 were departmental and the remaining were private. Departmental institutions decreased by 2 and private schools increased by 10. The number of girls who attended boys' schools during the year was 124,068, the remaining 66,883 being in girls' schools. The increase in the number of girls attending boys' schools was greater than the increase in the number in girls' schools. The proportion of girls to boys attending schools and colleges was 1 to 1.719 against 1 to 1.768 in 1102.

30. The following table shows the distribution of girls amongst the various classes of institutions :—

*Girls amongst Various Institutions.*

|                    | Number under instruction. |         | Variation in |        |
|--------------------|---------------------------|---------|--------------|--------|
|                    | 1102                      | 1103    | 1103         |        |
| Colleges           | 102                       | 203     | +            | 11     |
| English schools    | 9,585                     | 10,428  | +            | 843    |
| Vernacular schools | 165,118                   | 178,817 | +            | 13,699 |
| Special schools    | 1,524                     | 1,503   | -            | 21     |
| Total              | 176,419                   | 190,951 | +            | 14,532 |

Of the 203 girls attending colleges, 112 were in the College for Women, 68 in the Colleges of Arts and Science, 5 in the Sanskrit College, 12 in the Training College and 6 in the Scott Christian College, Nagercoil. In English schools, the largest number was in the preparatory class and that number fast diminishes with striking variations in each of the higher classes. The same phenomenon occurs in vernacular schools.

31. Of the 423 girls who appeared for the English School Leaving Certificate examination, 125 or about 30 per cent were declared eligible for college admission. The number of girls who appeared for the Vernacular School Leaving Certificate examination was 1,508 of whom 462 or 31 per cent passed.

32. A differentiation in curricula for girls' schools and boys' schools has been attempted by the inclusion in the curricula of girls' schools of such subjects as singing and sewing, and by the maintenance, in the English High School for Girls, Trivandrum, and in the Thirumulavilasam Balikamatom, Thiruvella, of a special section giving a course of instruction in three years to senior girls in subjects coming under domestic science, such as cooking, sick-nursing, first aid, needlework etc. Domestic economy has been included as an optional subject in two of the public examinations conducted by the department.

33. Co-education, or education of boys and girls in the same institution, is permitted in almost all boys' schools with the result that the number of girls studying in boys' schools is far larger than the number of girls studying in girls' schools. A vernacular school for girls might admit boys in the lower primary classes, but boys are not admitted in the higher classes of girls' schools. In the colleges in Trivandrum, co-education is allowed in those subjects in which the College for Women does not offer instruction. Female pupils enjoy the half-fee concession irrespective of economic status, in all Government institutions,

In the preceding paragraphs, the extent to which co-education has spread in the State has been briefly indicated. The number of girls attending colleges for men was 28 in 1094. This number increased to 108 during a period of 7 years, went down to 98 in 1102 and to 82 in 1103. This was the result of more admissions in the College for Women. In the English schools for boys, the number of girls steadily increased from 1,080 to 4,690 during the past decade. The percentage of increase was 334. The increase in vernacular schools was equally uninterrupted during the same period, i. e., from 67,832 to 119,172 or by 76 per cent. The percentage of girls to total strength in the colleges in the State rose from 7 to 8; in the English schools from 21 to 22; and that in the vernacular schools remained the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, 38. There were a larger number of girls in private institutions than in departmental ones, although the number steadily increased in both kinds of institutions during the past decade. The prevalence of co-education even in vernacular schools for Mahomedans which will be evident from the figures furnished in a subsequent paragraph of this chapter, is significant. It has already been stated at the commencement of this chapter that the system of co-education was coeval with the institution of village schools and that it did not require any patronage or inducement for its progress and development in view of the facilities afforded therefor by family and communal traditions. The system has been responsible for the remarkable spread of female education in the State and but for it the problem of providing education to nearly 200,000 of girls undergoing instruction in all institutions together in the State by the provision of separate facilities for the instruction of girls in the different stages of instruction, would have assumed serious proportions.

34. The amount spent by Government on musical instruction in departmental girls' schools during the year was about

Rs. 32,000. Grants to the extent of

*Instruction in* Rs. 3,000 were also awarded to private girls' schools for the purpose. There were about

*Music.* 200 teachers of music in departmental schools and about 50 in private schools. Music examinations were held regularly as in the previous year.

## Special School Education.

35. In addition to the training College where graduates and undergraduates were trained, there were training schools where

*Training  
Schools.*

holders of Vernacular School Leaving Certificates, Vernacular Higher Examination Certificates and English School Leaving Certificates are trained. The number of training schools remained unaltered, viz., 20, of which 11 were departmental and 9 private. Of these 20 schools, 4 were for women, of which 1 was departmental and 3 private. The number of teachers attending these schools fell from 351 to 347 of whom 65 were women.

36. The total number of recognised technical schools was 18 with a strength of 1,323. These schools imparted instruction in weaving, lacemaking, embroidery, plain sewing, pillow-lace making and drawing.

37. The Reformatory is the institution to which juvenile offenders are sent for purposes of correction and training. The number on the rolls at the end of the year was 21 against 29 in 1102. There were 4 new admissions and 12 releases from the school during the year. The number of admissions is reported to be the lowest on record. These juveniles were taught printing, binding, drawing, tailoring, agriculture and gardening and music. Voluntary teachers continued to impart moral instruction. Physical instruction also received adequate attention.

38. The Kavya and Veda sections of the Sanskrit College have been already referred to under the Sanskrit Schools. Sanskrit College. These sections contained 419 pupils against 396 in 1102. Of these, 25 were girls. Besides this school, there were 13 aided Sanskrit schools and 2 aided Vedio schools with a total strength of 1,275 pupils. The corresponding figures for 1102 were 11 Sanskrit schools and 2 Vedic schools and 1,023 pupils.

## Education of Special Classes.

39. There were four special schools for the education of members of Kshatriya families at Mavelikara, Aranmula, Poonjar, and Pandalam. *Kshatriyas.* One of these was an aided institution. The total strength of these schools was 58 boys and 23 girls. The school at Mavelikara is an English middle school and the rest are primary schools.

40. The number of Malayala Brahmins under instruction at the end of the year decreased from 1,070 to 1,034. *Malayala Brahmins.* The Government continued to maintain the special school at Kunnathur for the use of the members of this community.

41. Special inducements have been given for some years for Mahomedan pupils not merely by giving them, irrespective of poverty, a half-fee concession, but by providing in schools in which there are a sufficient number of Mahomedan pupils a qualified Koran teacher or an Arabic Munshi. There are also special schools for Mahomedans in certain areas and a high school for the special benefit of this class exists at Alleppey. There is further a Mahomedan Inspector of Schools for the inspection of Arabic and Koran teaching in schools and for encouraging generally the spread of education amongst the members of the community. Special scholarships have been sanctioned for Mahomedan pupils in colleges, English schools and vernacular schools. The number of Mahomedans under instruction increased from 16,752 to 17,900 or by 1,148. The Mahomedan high school at Alleppey has been steadily declining in strength. There were 148 pupils in 1099, while the number in the year under report was 110. The number in the high school forms, *i. e.*, IV, V and VI was only 38. The net cost to Government on account of this school was Rs. 10,534 which works out to a *per capita* expenditure of Rs. 96 per annum. The education of Mahomedan girls also received attention. The department maintained 3 vernacular primary schools for girls and there were in addition 7 aided vernacular schools.

These schools contained a total strength of 756 girls and 200 boys who were all in the first three primary classes.

42. Paraya pupils decreased from 4,429 to 4,234 i. e., by 195, while Pulayas increased from 12,473 to 13,479, i. e., by 1,006. There were Paraya and Pulaya pupils both in vernacular and English schools, the number attending the latter being 92 Parayas and 98 Pulayas.

*Miscellaneous.*

43. In addition to the hostels attached to the Colleges of Science and Arts, the Training College and the Women's College, there were other hostels and boarding houses in Trivandrum. These

*Hostels and Boarding Houses.* were 8 in number and the total grant disbursed to four of these was Rs. 2,053. The number of students accommodated in these hostels was a little over 300. The hostels attached to the four private colleges provided accommodation for 386 students and grants to the value of Rs. 662 were awarded to two colleges. Boarding houses were attached to the special schools at Mavelikara and Kunnathur. Boarding houses were also attached to 30 English schools for boys, 9 girls' schools and 9 vernacular schools for boys.

44. The number of orphanages working during the year was 11 with a total strength of 746 orphans. *Orphanages.* Six of these were run by Roman Catholics and four by the London Mission. One was a Hindu organisation. A sum of Rs. 2,671 was contributed by Government towards the maintenance of 7 of these orphanages.

45. The expenditure incurred on account of scholarships paid by Government and stipends paid to teachers of departmental schools under training was Rs. 80,041 of which Rs. 43,356 was on account of scholarships and Rs. 36,685 on account of stipends. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 80,644, Rs. 41,044 and Rs. 39,600. A further sum of

Rs. 21,884 was spent towards stipends to teachers from non-departmental institutions. The total expenditure out of endowed scholarships was Rs. 4,863.

46. Fee concessions were continued as in the previous years to pupils of the depressed classes, to poor pupils of the backward communities and also to poor

*Fee Concessions.* pupils of all classes. These concessions involved a loss of Rs. 90,180 of which Rs. 1,466 was in colleges, Rs. 69,425 in English schools and Rs. 19,289 in vernacular schools. A sum of Rs. 72,915 was paid as grants under this head. The total loss to Government on account of the grant of fee concessions was Rs. 1,63,095 against Rs. 1,38,765 in 1102.

47. Instruction in the various forms of manual training and educational hand-work continued to be imparted to all students of the Training College and to the pupils of

*Manual Training.* the Model School, Trivandrum. Manual training was introduced in the Sri Mula Vilasom English High School and the English High School for Girls, Trivandrum, and all the departmental English middle schools, boys' and girls', except the English middle school for girls at Mavelikara, in all departmental vernacular high schools for boys and in all the departmental vernacular middle schools, boys' and girls'. Qualified manual training instructors taught the subject in all the departmental training schools.

48. Spinning as a form of manual training was introduced in 22 vernacular middle schools in 1100 as an

*Spinning.* experimental measure and the instruction continued to be imparted in those schools during the year.

49. Grants-in-aid are given to reading rooms and libraries to encourage adult education. There

*Libraries and Reading Rooms.* were during the year 35 reading rooms and libraries in receipt of grant from Government. The total grant aggregated Rs. 2,412 against Rs. 2,382 in 1102.

50. The English Text Book Committee and the Vernacular Text Book Committee both of which consisted of official as well as non-official members, continued to function during the year. The former examined 768 volumes and the latter 165.

*Text Book Committees.*

51. This is attached to the Training College, Trivandrum, and is accessible to all classes of teachers.

*Educational Museum and Bureau.* The total number of volumes in the institution was 14,196 of which 3,294 were in the Indian languages. Of these volumes, 8,300 were lent to different educational institutions.

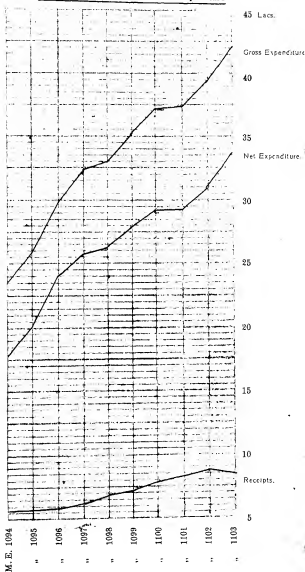
52. The scout movement which was inaugurated in Travancore nearly a couple of years ago with His Highness the Maharaja as the Chief Scout made commendable progress during the year under report. The number of troops and packs registered was 36, comprising in all 754 scouts, rovers, cubs and officers. The movement which was started in Trivandrum has spread to South, Central and North Travancore.

53. Recurring grants are given for the ordinary maintenance of institutions such as colleges, English high schools, vernacular schools, special schools, hostels, reading rooms and orphanages. Non-recurring grants are given in aid of the construction of buildings, equipment of institutions with laboratory appliances, books and furniture. The number of such institutions which were in receipt of grants during the year was 2,393. The total amount disbursed as grants was Rs. 8,30,381 against Rs. 9,62,241 in 1102.

# EDUCATION

THIRUVANANTHURAM DISTRICT

## Gross Expenditure, Receipts and Net Expenditure.



54. The receipts and expenditure of the Education Department during the past three years are shown in the following tabular statement:—

|             | 1101      | 1102      | 1103      |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|             | Rs.       | Rs.       | Rs.       |
| Expenditure | 37,44,036 | 39,59,578 | 41,90,581 |
| Receipts    | 8,18,455  | 8,60,913  | 8,44,576  |

The receipts decreased by Rs. 16,337 while the expenditure increased by Rs. 2,31,003 or by 6 per cent. The net expenditure of the department increased from Rs. 30,98,665 to Rs. 33,46,005. The decrease in receipts was due to the fall in the strength of the Arts and Science Colleges as well as in some English schools. The *per capita* net cost of educating a pupil in a departmental institution was approximately Rs. 6 or half a rupee per month. The gross expenditure incurred by Government on the Education Department during the year works at Rs. 1.04 and the net expenditure at As. 13.3 per head of the population against As. 15.8 and As. 12.3 respectively in the previous year.

#### Law College.

*Principal.*

*Mr. E. J. John, B. A., B. L.*

55. The Law College is one of the only two institutions of the kind in Southern India. The institution prepares candidates for the B. L.

*General.*

degree examination of the Madras University and for the Pleaderships examinations conducted by the High Court of Travancore.

56. The total strength of the different classes in the college was 584, of which 302 were in the B. L., 201 in the F. L., and 81 in the Pledership classes. This

*Strength.* number exceeded the figure for the previous year by 40. The increase was confined to the B. L. and F. L. classes. The hostel attached to the college provided accommodation and boarding for 40 students on an average.

57. The number of candidates who appeared from the college for the B. L. degree examination was 152 of whom 50 were

*Examination Results.* successful. One hundred and forty four candidates appeared for the F.L. examination and 43 passed, of whom one was first in the University, being the only first class. In the second grade Pledership examination, 41 students appeared and 20 were declared successful.

58. The finances of the college during the past three years are shown below :—

*Receipts and Expenditure.*

|             | 1101   | 1102   | 1103   |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|
|             | Rs.    | Rs.    | Rs.    |
| Receipts    | 51,445 | 57,465 | 62,934 |
| Expenditure | 34,258 | 34,436 | 35,504 |

The institution continued to be self-supporting.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

Local Self-Government in Travancore is represented by the several municipalities created under the provisions of the Travancore Municipal Regulation, V of 1095.

*General.* The number of such municipalities in the State remained the same as in 1102, *viz.*, 19.

The administration of these municipalities is vested in municipal councils composed of members some of whom are elected by the rate payers and others nominated by Government. Of the nominated members, some are officials and others non-officials. The chief executive authority in these councils is the President of the council who is elected in all but one municipality. The total strength of all the municipal bodies on the last day of the year was 312, of whom 193 were elected and the rest including 54 salaried servants of Government were nominated by Government. All the councils except Trivandrum have the right of electing their own presidents. The President of the Trivandrum municipality is nominated by Government and he is a whole time salaried official. The official president appointed for the Attingal municipality as a temporary measure continued during the year.

2. The area comprised within the jurisdiction of the municipalities remained unaltered during the year,

*Area and*  
*Population.* *viz.*, 111½ square miles. The population of this area according to the census of 1921 was 326,633.

3. Each municipal council held on an average 25 meetings during the year as in 1102. The Nagercoil municipal council held the largest number of meetings, *viz.*, 42 and the smallest

*Meetings.* number, *viz.*, 13 was held by the Colachel municipal council.

4. The birth and death rates recorded during the year in municipal towns were 35 and 17 respectively per mille of the population. The Attingal municipality had

*Public Health.* the lowest birth rate, viz., 20 per mille of the population while the lowest death rate was recorded in the Alwaye municipality, viz., 9 per mille. The infantile mortality was 74 per mille of registered births against 81 in 1102. The highest rate of infantile mortality was recorded at Shencotta, viz., 173. The lowest was in Quilon, viz., 31. There were cases of cholera at Nagercoil, Trivandrum, Quilon, Padmanabhapuram, Colachel, Kuzhithurai, Attingal and Shencotta, but the attacks recorded were 212 with 132 deaths against 6 and 4 respectively in 1102. There were cases of small pox in Trivandrum, Quilon, Colachel, Padmanabhapuram and Kayankulam, the total number of attacks being 84, of which 3 proved fatal.

5. The number of cases vaccinated during the year in all the municipal towns was 39,525 against 38,009 in 1102.

*Vaccination.* Of these 25,377 were primary vaccinations and the rest re-vaccinations. Primary vaccinations were successful in 97 per cent of cases against 96 per cent in 1102, the corresponding figures for re-vaccination being 57 and 59.

6. The total number of prosecutions launched by municipal councils for the infringement of municipal laws and rules was 5,845 against 8,010 in 1102 of

*Prosecutions.* which 1,814 cases or 31 per cent ended in conviction. Of these prosecutions, the largest number was in Trivandrum, viz., 2,770, and the largest number of convictions, viz., 719, was also recorded in that municipality.

7. The total receipts of the councils for the year amounted to Rs. 4,01,802 or Rs. 37,061 more than that of the previous year. The grants made by Government

*Finance.* amounted to Rs. 43,130 against Rs. 41,921 in 1102. This included the allotments sanctioned for the maintenance of lights in the Trivandrum municipality and for the maintenance of roads and streets in the

municipalities of Nagercoil, Alleppey, Kottayam and Changanachery. The aggregate receipts for all the councils amounted to Rs. 4,44,932 against Rs. 4,06,662 for 1102. The opening balance of the year to the credit of the municipal councils was Rs. 2,41,648. Including this the amount available for expenditure was Rs. 6,86,580 against Rs. 6,14,554 in 1102, of which a sum of Rs. 4,23,927 was spent by the councils during the year against Rs. 3,72,906 in 1102. The closing balance at the credit of the councils for 1103 was Rs. 2,62,653. The municipalities continued to show a marked tendency to hoard money. The Government have therefore in contemplation a revision of the existing scheme of grants.

8. The main function of municipal administration has been the maintenance of sanitation and public health. Amongst the obligatory functions which the Municipal *Miscellaneous.* Regulation has devolved on municipalities, lighting public streets, vaccination and registration of births and deaths have been undertaken by all the municipal councils. Other obligatory duties, namely, housing and maintaining destitute orphans and cripples, and establishing and maintaining elementary schools, have not yet been undertaken by any municipality. But a few municipal councils engaged themselves in certain activities which were calculated to promote the health, comfort and convenience of the inhabitants of those municipalities. In the field of education, the municipal councils of Alwaye and Attingal continued to maintain one English middle school each for girls and the Padmanabhapuram municipal council continued to maintain one night school. The Health Visitors in the Nagercoil and Quilon municipalities continued to do good work during the year and the municipal council, Nagercoil, has sanctioned the opening of a maternity and child welfare centre at Nagercoil. The municipal councils of Trivandrum, Kuzhithurai and Mavelikara have midwives under them to assist the poor in labour and it is very gratifying to learn that they are doing useful work. The encouragement given to Ayurvedic practitioners within municipal limits by a system of subsidies continued during the year. A scheme for the supply of good drinking water to the town of Nagercoil is under examination. The system of removal of night soil by means of motor lorries, which has been

found to be quite satisfactory was extended to the Quilon municipality also. The major municipalities are introducing motor tanks for the watering of roads. The dissemination of knowledge in regard to the causes of ordinary diseases and their cure by means of magic lantern lectures was also attended to by them. Attempts were also made to start reading rooms and libraries. The Alleppey municipality incurred some expenditure in connection with the destruction of rats on account of the outbreak of plague at Mattancherry.

9. From the data furnished by the several municipalities, it is seen that the incidence of taxation in the form of rates and taxes was highest in Quilon, *viz.*, Chs. 27-2 (As. 15-3) and lowest in Changanachery *viz.*, Ch. 3-15 (As. 2-3). Calculating the incidence in relation to the total revenue of municipalities the highest rate is in Kuzhithurai, *viz.*, Rs. 3 (B. Rs. 2-15) and the lowest in Mavelikara *viz.*, Chs. 12-6 (As. 7).

## CHAPTER XIV.

### HINDU RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

*Devaswom Commissioner.* Rao Bahadur R. Krishna Pillai,  
B. A., B. L. (till 16-7-1103).  
Mr. O. S. Ramaswami Aiyar,  
B. A., B. E., C. E. (from 4-9-1103).

Rao Bahadur R. Krishna Pillai continued to be in charge of the Devaswom Department until the 16th Kumbhom 1103 on which date he died after a long and faithful service of over thirty years under Government. He was succeeded on the 4th Medom by Mr. O. S. Ramaswami Aiyar who was until then in charge of the Maramat Department.

2. In pursuance of the Devaswom Proclamation, dated the 12th April 1922, the control of the Sirkar Devaswoms which vested for over a century in the Land

*General.* Revenue Department, was separated from that department and a Devaswom Department was organised for their efficient management and control with effect from the 1st Chingom 1098. This department was entrusted with the administration not only of the Sirkar Devaswoms but also of Japadakshina and Oottus or charitable institutions, with the exception of Sri Padmanabha Swami's Temple, the Utsavamatom and the Agrasala at the capital, of personal deposit institutions and of their properties situated within and outside the State. With the formation of the department, the Devaswoms were classified into major, minor and petty according to the scale of expenditure incurred; major Devaswoms being those involving an expenditure of Rs. 1,000 or more, minor costing between Rs. 1,000 and 100 and petty costing less than Rs. 100 annually. Amongst the notable achievements

of the department during the past five years of its existence, may be mentioned the following :—

(i) The promulgation of the rules for the devolution of management of minor and petty Devaswoms on local committees or agents, with a view to enlist public co-operation ;

(ii) The inauguration and successful execution of a scheme for the restoration of minor Devaswoms under the contribution system, according to which the works should be carried out by interested private agencies on estimates approved by the Maramat Department, the Devaswom Department making a contribution of 50 per cent of the cost ;

(iii) The abolition of animal sacrifices not only in Sirkar and aided Devaswoms, but also in un-aided private institutions ;

(iv) The renovation and reconstruction of important temples in the State ; and

(v) The standardisation of the celebration of annual festivals and Utsavams in Devaswoms and the avoidance thereby of waste and extravagance.

Towards the close of 1100 the Dewan was relieved of his duties and responsibilities in connection with the administration of the Devaswoms, other than the principal temple of the Capital and the associated charitable institutions, within the territorial limits of the State and coming within the purview of the Devaswom Proclamation, and their administration was entrusted to the Devaswom Commissioner who was to be directly responsible to Her Highness the Maharani Regent with the exception of certain important matters in respect of which the previous approval of the Dewan has to be obtained.

3. The number of major Devaswoms increased from 131 to 132; that of minor Devaswoms decreased from 370 to 369 ;

and that of petty Devaswoms remained the

*Devaswoms*— same as in the previous year, viz., 961. The  
*Major, Minor, and* variation in the number of major and  
*Petty.* minor Devaswoms was due to the circum-

stance that as a result of revision of *pathivas*

one minor Devaswom was brought into the category of major Devaswoms. The *pathivas* of four Devaswoms were revised during the year involving an additional

expenditure of Rs. 18,029. Extraordinary ceremonies like Ashtabandhanam, Navikaranakalasam and Dravyakalasam were performed in certain temples at a cost of Rs. 9,000. Similar ceremonies were conducted in certain other temples at the cost of the public. The people of Aramboly contributed Rs. 6,000 towards the construction of a Mandapam in the local temple. Public contributions were also received towards the improvement of temple buildings, the making of Vahanams and other appurtenances. Offers of money were further made for the revision of *pathious* in certain temples and for instituting new *pathious* in a few of them. Religious discourses continued to be held on occasions of important festivals and these attracted ever increasing and interested crowds. The organisation of Hindu Associations and religious libraries in the proximity of temples was an important feature demonstrating the keen interest of the Hindu public in the welfare of the Devaswoms and in the spiritual education of the masses. The system of associating the public in the administration of minor and petty Devaswoms was extended to 22 institutions.

4. The number of aided Devaswoms situated inside the State was 604, while that outside the State was 24. Besides these, there are a large number of un-aided

*Aided and Un-aided Devaswoms.* Devaswoms in the State controlled and managed by the public and a census of such institutions is in progress.

5. As already stated in a preceding paragraph, the renovation and reconstruction of temples is being systematically carried out every year according to an approved

*Renovation and Reconstruction of Temples.* scheme since the inauguration of the Devaswom Department. This work of renovation and reconstruction devolves on the Maramat Department.

Appreciable progress has so far been made in the renovation and restoration of Devaswom buildings and appurtenances. Devaswom Maramat includes:—

(a) Original works and special improvements done by the Maramat Department;

(b) Contribution works under the control of the Maramat Department; and

(c) Petty construction and repairs done under the supervision of the officers of the Devaswom Department.

The following statement gives the allotment and expenditure under the above heads during the past three years :—

| Description of Work.             | Allotment |          |          | Actual Expenditure |          |          |
|----------------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|--------------------|----------|----------|
|                                  | 1911      | 1912     | 1913     | 1911               | 1912     | 1913     |
|                                  | Rs.       | Rs.      | Rs.      | Rs.                | Rs.      | Rs.      |
| Sanitary work.                   | 2,81,000  | 1,50,000 | 1,31,700 | 2,19,700           | 1,49,000 | 1,70,500 |
| Repairs.                         | 7,112     | 1,00,000 | 88,200   | 17,100             | 73,000   | 71,300   |
| Contribution to Minor Devaswoms. | 11,400    | 20,000   | 20,000   | 11,600             | 19,000   | 17,500   |
| Total.                           | 2,99,512  | 2,70,000 | 2,40,900 | 2,48,400           | 2,41,000 | 2,59,300 |
| Petty construction and repairs.  | 40,000    | 40,000   | 45,000   | 35,100             | 40,000   | 44,800   |

6. The Special Officer for the verification of Thiruvabharams etc., continued his work during the year. The verification work in the Haripad Devaswom was

*Verification of Thiruvabharams.*

completely finished and the work was started in the Chengannur Devaswom. The work of verifying the Thiruvabharams in

Devaswoms other than first class major Devaswoms, was attended to by the Assistant Devaswom Commissioners and the work of verification of Bharanipatrams and Pattuparavattoms was conducted by Superintendents of Devaswoms.

7. The Hindu Religious Endowments Regulation, III of 1079, provides for the better administration of certain non-Sirkar Hindu religious endowments in

*Hindu Religious Endowments Regulation.*

Travancore. The Regulation authorises Government to interfere in the affairs of such institutions and to assume them when-

ever necessary. In accordance with the provisions of that Regulation enquiries in respect of 8 institutions were instituted during the year. Final reports in 6 cases were submitted to Government before the end of the year and 2 since the close of the year.

8. Personal Deposit Devaswoms are religious institutions which came under the control and management of the Government at different times and through varying circumstances and in respect of which accounts of receipts, expenditure and balance

*Personal Deposit Devaswoms.*

are not merged in the general Devaswom accounts but are maintained separate and independent and have personal deposit accounts with the treasuries. The total number of such institutions was 56. The most important of these are (1) the Kakur Estate in the British Ramnad District; (2) the Paschima and Erumeli Devaswoms; (3) the Pattazhi Devaswom; (4) the Thuravur Devaswom; and (5) the Perumanam Devaswom in the Cochin State. The temple buildings both at Erumeli and Paschima were in ruins and maramat works on a large scale were undertaken in both the Devaswoms at a cost of Rs. 5,086. The surplus funds of these Devaswoms aggregating over Rs. 2½ lakhs were invested in the Government treasuries.

9. The people took an increasing interest in the management of Devaswoms in general and cordially co-operated with the officers of the department in the conduct of

*Miscellaneous.*

Utsavoms and other festivals. A special Sahasrakalasam Vazhivadhu was conducted in the Vaikam temple on behalf of Her Highness the Maharani Regent at a cost of over Rs. 15,000. Of the 27 elephants in the department at the commencement of the year, one died and the rest were in sound condition at the end of the year. The 26 elephants consisted of 13 tuskers and 13 cows. The department also owned other live stock comprising 10 cows, 5 cow calves, 13 bulls and 10 bull calves.

10. The total receipts of the Devaswom Fund including the Government contribution amounted to Rs. 17,42,980 against

Rs. 17,39,062 in 1102. The Government contribution is Rs. 16 lakhs every

year. The total expenditure charged to the Fund was Rs. 14,04,656 against Rs. 13,97,549 in the previous year. The balance of the Devaswom Fund at the close of the year stood at Rs. 20,65,631. The amount is deposited in the Sirkar Savings Bank.

11. The subjoined statement shows the total expenditure on Devaswoms and Charities during the past three years over and above the Government *Expenditure on Devaswoms and Charities.* contribution to the Devaswom Fund :—

|             |                                        | 1901     | 1902     | 1903     |
|-------------|----------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
|             |                                        | Rs.      | Rs.      | Rs.      |
| Devaswoms   | Controlling Agencies                   | 1,11,115 | 1,14,586 | 1,16,032 |
|             | Sekandraswami                          | 2,55,230 | 2,70,011 | 2,55,520 |
|             | Grants to temples                      | 51,370   | 48,185   | 85,081   |
|             | Miscellaneous                          | 5,911    | 10,299   | 5,830    |
|             | Total                                  | 4,38,356 | 4,12,181 | 4,12,473 |
| Charities   | Agrasala                               | 1,81,070 | 1,77,293 | 1,81,537 |
|             | Munnet Colleges                        | 51,893   | 55,131   | 51,279   |
|             | Orphan, Leprosy, Thimmar-<br>pudi etc. | 98,797   | 90,276   | 1,01,877 |
|             | Charities outside the State            | 1,297    | 4,365    | 1,012    |
|             | Total                                  | 3,41,717 | 3,31,165 | 3,15,905 |
| Grand Total |                                        | 7,80,073 | 7,43,346 | 7,28,378 |

The Sripandaravagai and the Agrasala are outside the control of the Devaswom Department and are directly under the supervision of Government. The former relates to the affairs of the Sri Padmanabhaswami Temple in which the members of the Ruling Family worship their tutelary deity. The latter is attached to this temple and deals with matters pertaining to the feeding of Brahmins. The expenditure controlled by the Devaswom Department does not therefore include the expenditure under these two items; but it covers the expenditure under the Devaswom Fund. The amount of such expenditure during the year was Rs. 17,42,670. The total expenditure on Devaswoms and Charities increased by Rs. 11,431. The average annual expenditure on the department since its organisation half a dozen years ago has been Rs. 23.55 lakhs approximately.

## CHAPTER XV.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

#### The Mint.

The Travancore mint was established in 965 M. E. (1789--90) at Padmanabhapuram and issued at first gold

coins called *Anantarayam panams*, silver chuckrams and copper cash. The mint was permanently transferred to Trivandrum

in 1824. The history of Travancore coins goes back to remote antiquity and is far older than the Mint. Gold, silver, zinc and copper coins were once in circulation. Travancore gold coins have long ceased to be legal tender. The existing currency is described in Chapter I.

2. The superintendence of the Mint is entrusted to the Superintendent of the Stamp Manufactory.

*Control.* The department is under the administrative control of the Financial Secretary to Government.

3. There was no copper coinage in the year and the Mint remained temporarily closed. Silver coins

*Minting.* of the face value of Rs. 2,00,005 were obtained minted from the Birmingham

Mint as usual and issued in the year. The previous silver mintage was in 1100.

4. The profit on the silver coinage was Rs. 81,906. There was a small miscellaneous receipt of Rs. 59.

*Finance.* The cost of the establishment (leave and subsistence allowances) and the maintenance of the machines and building amounted to Rs. 2,111. The net profit was Rs. 79,854.

5. The following table shows the Sirkar coins assumed to be *Coins in Circulation* in circulation :—  
lation.

|                                   | Face value of coins minted. |          | Total minted. | Amount held in treasuries at the close of the year. | Amount assumed to be in circulation at the close of the year. |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                   | Up to end of 1108.          | In 1108. |               |                                                     |                                                               |
| SILVER.                           |                             |          |               |                                                     |                                                               |
|                                   | Rs.                         | Rs.      | Rs.           | Rs.                                                 | Rs.                                                           |
| Half rupees ...                   | 96,094                      | 50,000   | 1,46,094      | 53,831                                              | 92,263                                                        |
| Quarter do. ...                   | 1,01,001                    | 30,000   | 1,31,001      | 52,751                                              | 67,250                                                        |
| Pennies ...                       | 3,57,153                    | 1,00,000 | 4,57,153      | 1,29,125                                            | 3,28,028                                                      |
| Total ...                         | 5,54,248                    | 2,80,000 | 7,34,248      | 2,35,707                                            | 5,98,441                                                      |
| COPPER.                           |                             |          |               |                                                     |                                                               |
|                                   | Rs.                         | Rs.      | Rs.           | Rs.                                                 | Rs.                                                           |
| Chakrams ...                      | 11,82,031                   | ...      | 11,82,031     | 3,52,135                                            | 8,29,896                                                      |
| Half chakrams ...                 | 1,98,974                    | ...      | 1,98,974      | 1,39,112                                            | 3,59,862                                                      |
| Quarter do. ...                   | 2,33,163                    | ...      | 2,33,163      | 65,559                                              | 1,67,604                                                      |
| Cash ...                          | 1,30,191                    | ...      | 1,30,191      | 25,256                                              | 1,04,935                                                      |
| Total ...                         | 20,44,359                   | ...      | 20,44,359     | 5,82,062                                            | 13,62,297                                                     |
| Total silver and copper coins ... | 26,03,708                   | 2,80,000 | 28,83,708     | 8,17,769                                            | 19,66,438                                                     |

6. The usual details of Sirkar as well as of British Indian silver coins cut by Government Treasury Officers in the year are given below :—

|                           | Counterfeit coins. | Light weight, defective, and withdrawn coins. | Total No. of coins cut. | Face value. |      |    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|------|----|
|                           |                    |                                               |                         | Rs.         | Ans. | P. |
| (a) Sirkar Coins.         |                    |                                               |                         |             |      |    |
| Half rupees ...           | 3                  | 8                                             | 11                      | 5           | 14   | 0  |
| Quarter rupees ...        | 1                  | 13                                            | 14                      | 3           | 11   | 0  |
| Pennies ...               | 32                 | 25                                            | 57                      | 7           | 20   | 0  |
| Total ...                 |                    |                                               |                         | 15          | 45   | 0  |
| (b) British Indian Coins. |                    |                                               |                         |             |      |    |
| Rupees ...                | 20                 | ...                                           | 20                      | 20          | 0    | 0  |
| Half rupees ...           | 1                  | ...                                           | 1                       | 0           | 8    | 0  |
| Quarter rupees ...        | 2                  | ...                                           | 2                       | 0           | 8    | 0  |
| Two anna pieces ...       | 1                  | ...                                           | 1                       | 0           | 8    | 0  |
| Total ...                 |                    |                                               |                         | 21          | 8    | 0  |

## Government Press.

*Superintendent.**Mr. J. J. Chandy.*

7. The Government Press was organised for the first time about 1836. The first press in Travancore was established in 1820 by the Nagercoil Mission and

*General.* three years later, the Kottayam Mission Press was started. The Government Press

and the press attached to the Central Prison are under professional control and supervision of the Superintendent, Government Press. The labour employed in the Central Prison Press is supplied from amongst convicts by the Superintendent, Central Prison. In addition to the Government Gazette published every week, the most important items of work done by the Government Press in conjunction with the Central Prison Press are the printing and publication of the Statistical Volume, the departmental reports, forms etc., the Proceedings of the Legislative Council and of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly.

8. Fresh plant and type to the value of Rs. 12,767 were added to the Government Press during the year. The total value of plant in the institution at the end

*Plant.* of the year was Rs. 2,15,233 after setting off the usual percentage on account of depreciation.

9. The composing branch of the department set 41,704 standard pages, including authors' corrections. The total

*Out-turn.* number of impressions printed was 17,616,984. The binding branch executed work to the value of Rs. 33,218. The

total value of printing and binding done fell from Rs. 1.77 lakhs to Rs. 1.57 lakhs. The cost on account of printing in connection with the several sessions of the Legislative Council and the Popular Assembly amounted to Rs. 12,880 against Rs. 12,953 in 1102. It is noteworthy that notwithstanding the magnitude of the work, the Government Press was able to print and issue in time the complete electoral rolls in respect of the last election

of members for the new session of the Legislative Council. Calculations showed that for every rupee spent during the year the Press was able to turn out Re. 1.5 worth of work.

10. The number of subscribers to the full Government Gazette rose from 1,009 to 1,116 and the number of free issues also rose from 495 to 499. Department-

*Gazette.* al sheets were subscribed for by 49 and were supplied free to 5,887 persons or institutions. Realisations on account of advertisement charges increased from Rs. 8,963 to Rs. 10,063.

11. The receipts and expenditure of the department during

*Receipts and* the past three years are shown below :—  
*Expenditure.*

|                                          | 1101     | 1102     | 1103     |
|------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
|                                          | Rs.      | Rs.      | Rs.      |
| Receipts                                 | 30,197   | 30,291   | 31,766   |
| Expenditure                              | 1,12,609 | 1,28,302 | 1,17,616 |
| Debit not debitable to Annual Department | 9,660    | 6,490    | 6,253    |
| Net total                                | 1,02,843 | 1,10,813 | 1,12,863 |

The net expenditure of the department fell from Rs. 86,522 to Rs. 80,498.

#### Stationery.

12. The subjoined statement shows the receipts and expenditure under Stationery during the last three years.

|                                          | 1101     | 1102     | 1103     |
|------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
|                                          | Rs.      | Rs.      | Rs.      |
| Receipts                                 | 8,364    | 2,291    | 2,588    |
| Expenditure                              | 2,12,130 | 2,27,075 | 2,44,582 |
| Debit not debitable to Annual Department | 14,253   | 8,242    | 8,865    |
| Net total                                | 2,04,877 | 2,10,435 | 2,35,717 |

13. Purchases to the value of Rs. 2,22,944 were made in 1103 as against Rs. 2,09,070 in 1102. The value of the articles issued to the several departments *Stock and Issue*, amounted to Rs. 2,28,267 as against Rs. 1,62,719 in the previous year. The stock in hand at the end of the year was Rs. 2,28,549 as against Rs. 2,33,872 at the close of 1102.

#### Presses and Publications.

14. There were at the end of the year 120 printing presses in the State. The number of books published from these presses was 382, of which 170 were publications by Government. Of these 382 publications, 222 were in Malayalam, 148 in English, 5 in Tamil, 1 in Sanskrit, 1 in Sanskrit and Malayalam and 5 in English and Malayalam. As in the previous year, the majority of the private publications related to general literature, and others treated of religion, history, geography, education, economics, law, medicine, mechanics, banking and miscellaneous matters.

15. The number of newspapers and periodicals published in *Newspapers and* the State during the past four years is shown *Periodicals.* below :—

|             | 1100 | 1101 | 1102 | 1103 |
|-------------|------|------|------|------|
| Newspapers  | 52   | 57   | 44   | 50   |
| Periodicals | 79   | 89   | 76   | 83   |

The Press continued to be an important factor in the State influencing and moulding public opinion to a considerable extent. Of the newspapers and periodicals published in the year under report, 59 were published in Malayalam, 19 in English, 37 in Malayalam and English, 8 in Tamil, 1 in English and Tamil, 1 in Malayalam and Tamil, 6 in English, Malayalam and Tamil, 1 in English, Malayalam and Latin, and 1 in English, Malayalam and Syriac. Of the newspapers in circulation, 6 were daily, 5 tri-weekly, 5 bi-weekly and 34 weekly publications, while 2 were occasional publications. Thirty newspapers were devoted to general and political, 8 to literary and educational, 8 to social,

2 to religious and 2 to miscellaneous, topics. Of the periodicals, 3 were published fortnightly, 66 monthly, 3 once in two months, 5 quarterly and 6 once in four months. Five periodicals dealt with general and political, 16 with literary and educational, 14 with soci 1, 2 with humorous, 2 with medical, 35 with religious and 9 with miscellaneous matters. During the year 35 new licenses were issued to newspapers under the Travancore Newspapers Regulation, V of 1101, and 3 licenses were cancelled on application by the licensees. The total number of newspapers and periodicals at the close of the year was 133.

#### Publication of Sanskrit Manuscripts.

*Curator.*

*Mr. K. Sambasiva Sastri.*

16. The Principal of the Sanskrit College at Trivandrum was originally entrusted with the publication of old Sanskrit manuscripts in the Palace library. As the

*General.*

arrangement did not work satisfactorily, the Government organised a separate department for the purpose in 1084 (1908-9) for the publication of valuable old manuscripts found in the Palace library and obtained from private libraries in the State. The Trivandrum Sanskrit Series has gained a world-wide reputation.

17. Nineteen works dealing with various subjects such as Veda, Grammar, Jyotisha, Sravyakavya, Sandesakavya, Alankara Sangita, Stuti, Rekhasastra and history, were

*Work of the  
Department.*

examined and are being prepared for publication. The department also prepared for the Press 26,228 granthas against 24,083 in 1102, of which 13,645 granthas were finally printed. The following four works were published as Nos. 92 to 95 of the Trivandrum Sanskrit Series :—

- (1) Rasopanishat (Treatise in mercury).
- (2) Vedantaparibhasa (Advaita Vedanta).
- (3) Brihaddesi (Treatise on music).
- (4) Ranadipika (Treatise on warfare)

The expenditure during the year was Rs. 13,832 against Rs. 11,703 in 1102.

## Publication of Malayalam Manuscripts.

*Curator.* Mr. K. Sankara Menon, M. A., L. T.  
D. Ph.

18. The department for the publication of Malayalam manuscripts was organised in 1099 M. E., i. e., four years ago. Two series of publications are issued by this branch of the State Department, one the Sri Mulam Malayalam Series and the other the Sri Vanchi Setu Lekshmi Series. The first deals with Malayalam literary works of recognised value and the second with astronomy, astrology and Ayurveda manuscripts. Ten important works have hitherto been published in the latter and 20 literary works in the former series.

19. Five hundred and three manuscripts were collected by the end of the year. The transcription of  
*Works done.* 118,778 granthas was ready for the Press.  
The books published during the year were the following:—

1. Ramayana Champu Vol. III.
2. Jyohsnika (Work on poison treatment).
3. Rasavaiseshikom (Science of Ayurveda).
4. Tantra Yukti Vichara (deals with Ayurveda).

*Expenditure.*

The expenditure during the year was Rs. 5,990.

## Trivandrum Public Library.

*Honorary Secretary.* Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan, M. A.  
(Oxon.), F. R. H. S.

20. The Trivandrum Public Library has been in existence for the past 79 years. It was originally open only to a select

*General.* few and was thrown open to the general public in 1898. The present building was constructed in commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. The management of the Library is invested in a committee appointed by Government. Any person resident in Travancore may become a member or subscriber. Admission to the public reading room is free.

21. The popularity of the institution is shown by the steady increase in the number of members and subscribers during the year. The former rose from 191 to 206 and the latter from 424 to 454. The

*Working of the Institution.* The general reading room continued to be

attractive to the public. The average number of readers every month was 3,382 or an increase of 288. The number of volumes in the Library increased from 26,735 at the beginning of the year to 27,460 at the end of the year. The number of volumes issued during the year was 27,370 and this fell short of the number for the previous year by 480. Amongst the books issued, those on fiction had, as in previous years, the largest circulation, followed by general prose, biography, memoirs and letters, and poetry and drama. The number of affiliated libraries was only two. But the number is expected to increase during the current year in view of the decision of Government to reduce the amount of subscription payable by affiliated mofussil libraries. The receipts from the Library have been progressively going up with the steady increase in the number of members and subscribers. The total amount of subscriptions and miscellaneous receipts amounted to Rs. 4,912 or an increase of Rs. 462 over those for the previous year. The expenditure too rose from Rs. 12,056 to Rs. 12,237, the net cost to Government during the year being Rs. 7,325.

#### Archaeological Department.

*Archaeological Probationer.* Mr. R. Vasudeva Paduval, B. A.

22. With a view to the collection and investigation of the available data relating to the political and economic history and the ethnology of the country, Govern-

*General.* ment sanctioned the establishment of an Archaeological Department in 1071 M. E.

(1895-6). The work of the Department is embodied in the Travancore Archaeological Series published from time to time. The office of the Superintendent of Archaeology remained vacant since February 1926. The Pandit Assistant continued to be in charge of the department till the 3rd week of May 1928 when it was transferred, as a tentative measure, to the administrative

control of the Director of Public Instruction. Soon after, an Archaeological Probationer was appointed against the vacant post of Superintendent of Archaeology and the department was placed under his charge.

23. Some new epigraphs were copied during the year. An underground vault near Parappancode in the Neduvankad taluk was discovered and an old broken sword

*Work done.*

was found in it. The department is conducting further investigations. The department directed its attention towards collection of local traditions, folklore, manuscripts, *granthaovaries* and other materials of archaeological interest. Amongst the manuscripts, the Kalari Mahatmyam dealing with the system of *Kalaris* (Gymnasia) on the west coast, and the Suchindra Pratigayam containing an account of the old trials by ordeal, deserve to be mentioned for their great antiquity. During the year, Vol. V. Part III and Vol. VI. Part I of the Travancore Archaeological Series were finally issued. The preparation of an Archaeological Map of Travancore was taken up during the year and an archaeological survey is under contemplation. The expenditure during the year fell from Rs. 2,906 to Rs. 2,746.

#### Museum and Public Gardens.

*Honorary Director.* Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon, B. A.,  
B. Sc Hon. (London), A. C. G. I.  
and D. I. C., A. M. I. Mech. E.,  
A. M. I. E. (Ind.).

24. The Museum was originally started about 1853 and it occupied its present habitation in 1880. The object of the foundation was to encourage science and

*Early History.*

art. The Public Gardens came into existence in 1859. Soon after a Zoological Section was added by transferring to it the Maharaja's private menagerie. From modest beginnings, the institution has grown and flourished during the past half a century and more affording to many thousands of people every year instruction and pleasure.

25. Mr. C. Balakrishna Rao continued to be the Honorary Director until the commencement of the last quarter of the year. He was succeeded by Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon towards the close of the year.

26. The Museum maintained its popularity throughout the year. That its attractions remained unabated is exemplified by

|                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Number of<br/>Visitors.</i> | the annual statistics of visitors. The number of visitors during the year was 367,635 or an increase of 59,012 over the figure for the previous year. There were on an average 1,225 visitors every working day. The highest number of visitors during a single day was 28,476. The addition of a pair of giraffes and ostriches to the Zoo accounted for a large influx of visitors. |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

27. The following statement gives the receipts and expenditure under Museum and Public Gardens during the past three years:

|                 | 1101    | 1102      | 1103    |
|-----------------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Receipts ...    | Rs. 990 | Rs. 1,186 | Rs. 955 |
| Expenditure ... | 40,290  | 39,250    | 54,081  |

#### Observatory.

Government Astronomer. Dr. H. Subramonia Aiyar,  
M. A., Ph. D.

Government Meteorologist. Mr. V. Sivaramakrishna  
Aiyar, M. A.

28. The Observatory, Trivandrum, was first established in 1836 during the reign of His Highness Swathi Thirunal (1829-47). The institution was intended to give an impetus to science by taking advantage of the special facilities afforded for the purpose by the circumstance that the Magnetic Equator passed

through the State. Mr. Caldecott, the then Commercial Agent at Alleppey, who originated the idea, was the first Government Astronomer. The next Government Astronomer was Mr. J. A. Broun, F. R. S. He fitted up the new institution for magnetic and meteorological observations. The observations were subsequently confined to meteorology. New instruments were sanctioned during the year and arrangements were also made to conduct original investigation and observations so that the institution may keep pace with the march of scientific progress and may be of practical use to students prosecuting postgraduate scientific studies in the local Science College.

29. The institution was under the control and supervision of an Honorary Director until the commencement of the year.

*Personnel.* During the year, the Honorary Director was designated the Government Meteorologist and Dr. H. Subramonia Aiyar was appointed Government Astronomer. The two sections were made independent of each other.

30. Meteorological observations were made daily and the results reduced and tabulated. Daily weather telegrams were despatched to the meteorological officers at Poona, Madras and Bombay. The number of departmental rain gauges was increased from 76 to 77.

*Meteorological Work.* The number of non-departmental rain gauges, mostly started by the Agricultural Department, was 16. The results of the record of rainfall during the year have already been given under "Season and Rainfall" in Chapter VIII. Government have already sanctioned a scheme for the commencement of pilot balloon observations. The scheme will come into force during the current year and it will then be possible to issue weather bulletins during times of suspicious weather on the scientific basis of upper air correlation factors also.

31. Observations were made with the Transit Circle for standardising local time, and errors in the firing of the time gun were regulated. Weekly publications of astronomical notes on local mean time of rising, setting and meridian passage of the sun, moon and all the planets and on their

*Astronomical Work.*

respective positions in the sky at local mean noon were made in advance in the Government Gazette. The mathematics students of the Science College took full advantage of this section of the department for practical study and observation.

32. The total expenditure on the institution was Rs. 7,458.  
*Finance.*

#### State Life Insurance.

33. With a view to enable Public Servants, especially those in the subordinate grades of the service, to make some provision for their families, a scheme of  
*General.* State Life Insurance was introduced in 1898.

34. The present rules were introduced from Edavom 1099. The fund is administered by the Financial Secretary to Government. The benefits of the scheme are confined to employees in pensionable service and insurance is optional. The question of extending the benefits of the scheme to the public is still under consideration.  
*Control.*

35. The number of policies in force at the commencement of the year was 864 and this number continued at its close. Twenty-one fresh proposals were received in the year  
*Proposals and Policies.* and seven were carried forward from the previous year. Policies were issued in 22 cases and one proposal was rejected. Of the remaining 5 which were pending at the close of the year, one had been received only on the last day of the year and in the other 4 cases, proper age certificates had not been submitted. Twenty-two policies were removed from the registers. There were 8 deaths and 12 persons completed their 55th year and in 2 cases surrender value was paid under the rules.

36. Nineteen claims were considered in the year, inclusive of 2 received in the previous year. In 14 cases, the accounts were settled in the year and the rest had to be held over for want of proper certificates.  
*Claims.*

37. The second actuarial valuation of the Fund which had been commenced in the previous year was completed. The report disclosed a profit of Rs. 14,534 in the *Actuarial Valuation* in addition to the profit of Rs. 50,320 disclosed at the first valuation.

The question of distributing to the policy holders a portion of the profits was under the consideration of Government at the close of the year. It has since been decided to distribute 75 per cent of the profit of Rs. 14,534 in the form of a simple reversionary bonus at 0.6 per cent per annum for every full year's premium paid in the quinquennium, the remaining 25 per cent being credited to Government.

38. The accounts of the Fund for the *Fund Account* year are given below:—

| Receipts.                                          | Rs.      | ch. | c. | Payments.                       | Rs.      | ch. | c. |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------|-----|----|---------------------------------|----------|-----|----|
| i. Premiums including interest on delayed payments | 21,551   | 17  | 4  | i. Claims of heirs paid         | 4,656    | 19  | 15 |
| ii. 4 per cent interest on Fund Balance            | 12,880   | 0   | 0  | ii. Paid to insured on maturity | 4,097    | 1   | 5  |
| Add Opening Balance                                | 8,31,754 | 25  | 5  | iii. Surrender values paid      | 15       | 4   | 5  |
|                                                    |          |     |    | iv. Cost of Actuarial Valuation | 2,152    | 7   | 7  |
|                                                    |          |     |    | Add Closing Balance             | 3,44,946 | 9   | 9  |
| Total                                              | 8,55,284 | 16  | 9  | Total                           | 8,55,284 | 16  | 9  |

#### Savings Banks.

39. Savings Bank business is conducted at all the State Treasuries and at the more important Anchal Offices. Besides ordinary accounts which members of the general

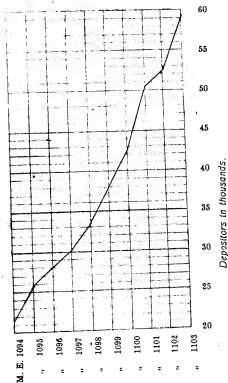
*General.* public are allowed to open, security deposits are received where pass books are to be pledged and deposited as security for the performance of a contract with Government or for the due discharge of the duties of an office by a Government servant. Public accounts are allowed to be opened in some cases by public bodies and by

institutions conducted for purposes other than the personal advantage of the proprietors or managers and also by co-operative societies. The rate of Savings Bank interest is Rs. 4-0-8 per cent per annum and interest is allowed on the lowest balance in the account between the 6th and the close of a month. Fixed deposits for periods of six months or one year carrying interest at 4 per cent per annum are received from Municipalities, the Devaswom Department and Devaswoms having personal deposit accounts at treasuries. This facility and concession has been provisionally extended to the Trivandrum Central Co-operative Bank, from Edavam 1103, with permission to overdraw against a fixed deposit, by arrangement with the Account officer, the Bank paying a slightly higher rate of interest on overdrawn amounts than the 4 per cent they receive on their fixed deposit. The total amount which may be deposited at interest in an 'Ordinary' account is limited to Rs. 2,000 in a year and to Rs. 10,000 at any time. The limit in the case of a public account is Rs. 20,000 except in the case of the Central Co-operative Bank which can deposit up to Rs. 1 lakh, receiving 2 per cent interest on sums in excess of the usual limit of Rs. 20,000. There is no limit to the amount of a fixed deposit.

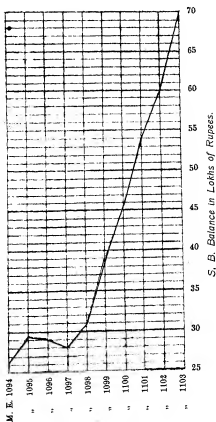
40. The total balance of deposits went up from Rs. 60.08 lakhs at the commencement of the year to Rs. 69.56 lakhs at its close, the number of accounts rising from 52,439 to 59,233. 'Ordinary' accounts showed a substantial increase both in number of accounts and the amount of deposits, the increase being 6,000 accounts and Rs. 3.58 lakhs against an expansion of only 3,000 accounts and Rs. 0.12 lakh in the preceding year. The average closing balance at the credit of an effective 'Ordinary' account was Rs. 82.44 against Rs. 72.5 in the previous year. This compares favourably with the average balance at credit of a depositor in the British Indian Post Office Savings Banks in Travancore, which was only about Rs. 49.46, the total balance being B. Rs. 5.67 lakhs at the credit of 11,467 depositors in 69 offices,

**PROGRESS IN THE NUMBER OF SAVINGS**

**BANK DEPOSITORS.**



# BALANCES UNDER SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS.



41. The larger volume of Savings Bank business done in the year necessitated an increased interest payment, the figure being Rs. 2.24 lakhs against Rs. 2.08 lakhs in the previous year. Taking into consideration the average rate of interest yielded on surplus investments in Government of India Securities, the interest earned on the balance of Saving Bank deposits may be put down at Rs. 2.78 lakhs. The net return to the State from the Savings Bank business was accordingly about Rs. half a lakh.

*Interest.*

42. The subjoined statement gives particulars of the transactions of the year:—

*Progress of Business.*

(Figures are in lakhs of Rupees.)

|                  |            | No. of Offices. | Ordinary Accounts. |       | Savings Accounts. |       |
|------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|
|                  |            |                 | No.                | Rs.   | No.               | Rs.   |
| Opening Balance. | Treasuries | 81              | 1,194              | 1.78  | 9,741             | 16.58 |
|                  | Archiefs   | 85              | 84,643             | 18.21 | 1,508             | 2.27  |
|                  | Total      | 116             | 30,876             | 20.00 | 11,689            | 18.85 |
| Closing Balance. | Treasuries | 81              | 1,342              | 2.04  | 10,478            | 18.38 |
|                  | Archiefs   | 96              | 44,371             | 21.54 | 1,884             | 2.40  |
|                  | Total      | 127             | 45,013             | 23.58 | 12,762            | 20.78 |

|                  |            | Public Accounts. |      | Fixed Deposits. |       | Total. |       |
|------------------|------------|------------------|------|-----------------|-------|--------|-------|
|                  |            | No.              | Rs.  | No.             | Rs.   | No.    | Rs.   |
| Opening Balance. | Treasuries | 54               | 1.06 | 28              | 18.07 | 11,097 | 36.10 |
|                  | Archiefs   | 722              | 1.50 | ..              | ..    | 61,342 | 21.98 |
|                  | Total      | 806              | 3.16 | 28              | 18.07 | 52,439 | 60.08 |
| Closing Balance. | Treasuries | 57               | 1.19 | 27              | 22.82 | 12,254 | 44.48 |
|                  | Archiefs   | 884              | 1.19 | ..              | ..    | 46,979 | 25.13 |
|                  | Total      | 881              | 2.98 | 27              | 22.82 | 59,233 | 69.66 |

The number of offices increased from 104 in 1099 to 127 in 1103 or by 22 per cent during the quinquennium. The ordinary accounts increased by 71 per cent during the period, while the percentage of increase in the amount held in deposit was 77. The withdrawals amounted to Rs. 50.92 lakhs against Rs. 42.74 lakhs in the previous year. The total number of effective accounts was 41,534 with a balance of Rs. 69.24 lakhs and that of dead accounts was 17,699 with a balance of Rs. .32 lakh.

*Trivandrum,* )  
*The 17th February, 1929.* )

M. E. WATTS,  
*Dewan.*

## GLOSSARY.

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- Adhipati.**—Chief.
- Agrasala.**—Feeding house attached to the Sri Padmanabhaswami's temple at the Capital.
- Allom.**—Salt-pan.
- Asan.**—Village school-master.
- Ayacut.**—Permanent record showing the final results of land revenue settlement.
- Ayurveda.**—The ancient medical science of the Indians.
- Bharanipetroms.**—Vessels used in Devaswoms.
- Brahmaswom.**—Properties belonging to Malayala Brahmans.
- Brahmaswom Thanathu.**—Jennom lands which are exempt from tax so long as they remain unalienated, in the hands of the original Brahmaswoms.
- Chattavariola.**—(Lit. A cadjan writ containing a law of the State.) A collection of rules and laws framed for the guidance of Sirkar Officers.
- Chowkey.**—Customs house.
- Devaswom.**—Temple.
- Devaswom Thanathu.**—Jennom lands belonging to Devaswoms which are exempt from tax so long as they remain unalienated, in the hands of the original Devaswoms.
- Dewan Peishkar.**—Officer in charge of a Revenue Division.
- Edavaka.**—A freehold estate paying no revenue to Government.
- Ettuveetil Pillamar.**—(Lit. Nairs belonging to eight families.) The feudal chiefs in ancient Travancore.
- Oranthavari.**—Old records in cadjan leaves.
- Hundi.**—Money-order.
- Japadakshina.**—Pay and perquisites given to Brahmans for the performance of special religious services in temples and palaces.
- Jenmi.**—A land-lord who holds land in absolute freehold and not normally liable to payment of tax to the Sirkar.
- Jennibhogam.**—Jenmi's share.
- Jennom land.**—Land held by a jenmi.

**Kalaries.**—Old gymnasia of Malabar.

**Kanapattom.**—A demise of jommon land made or renewed by the jenmi.

**Kandukrishi lands.**—Home-farm lands of the Sovereign.

**Kari.**—Pani lands bordering on the back waters in North Travancore.

**Kudivaram.**—Licensee's share (or value thereof) of the salt manufactured in monopoly factories.

**Kudivila.**—The owner's share of the value of "Royal" trees standing on private lands.

**Kudiyar.**—A tenant who holds land either from the Sirkar or from a jenmi.

**Marumakkattayam.**—A system of inheritance prevalent in Malabar under which property descends in the maternal line from uncle to nephew.

**Melivaram.**—Government's share (or value thereof) of the salt manufactured in the monopoly factories.

**Michavaram.**—The residual rent payable annually by a Kudiyar to the Jenmi.

**Neet.**—Commission demanded under the Ruler's sign manual.

**Oottupura.**—Feeding house.

**Pakuthi.**—The lowest unit of revenue administration.

**Pandaravaka.**—Lands in respect of which the Sirkar is in the position of a landlord and which are held by the ryots on various kinds of tenure derived directly from the Sirkar.

**Pandarapattom.**—A variety of Pandaravaka tenure originally in the nature of a lease from the Sirkar, but under which the holders now enjoy full proprietary rights and the lands are private, heritable, saleable and otherwise transferable property.

**Pathivus.**—Scales of expenditure for daily, monthly and annual ceremonies in temples.

**Pattom.**—Rent.

**Pattuparivattoms.**—Clothes used in connection with worship in Devaswams.

**Pokkuvaravu.**—Transfer of registry or the recording of changes in the names of land holders for the purpose of collection of revenue.

**Poramboke.**—Unassessed lands forming the property of Government or used or reserved for public purposes or for the communal use of villagers.

**Proverthicar.**—A subordinate of the Revenue Department under the Tahsildar in charge of a *pakuthi*.

**Puduval.**—Government lands available for assignment.

**Punja.**—Low-lying wet lands in North Travancore which lie submerged in water and are drained off and cultivated once in a year or once in two years.

**Rajabhogam.**—(King's due) a light rate or quit-rent levied by the Rikar in the case of lands held on favourable tenures.

**Satrams.**—Rest-houses.

**Sripadom lands.**—Lands forming the hereditary domain of the Ruzis of Travancore.

**Streedhanam.**—Dowry.

**Tahsildar.**—A Revenue officer subordinate to a Dewan Peishkar and in charge of a *taluk*.

**Taluk.**—A unit of revenue administration consisting of several *parishads*.

**Taravad.**—Joint family.

**Tharavila.**—Ground value.

**Thirumadampu.**—Investiture of the holy thread and connected ceremonies in the case of the male members of the Ruling family.

**Thiruvabharamom.**—Jewels belonging to Devaswoms.

**Utsavam.**—A periodical festival held in a Devaswom.

**Vaidyasala.**—Dispensary conducted according to the *Ayurvedic* system.

**Vaidyan.**—Physician following the *Ayurvedic* system of treatment.

**Viruppu.**—A class of wet lands in North Travancore scattered among the low hills and slopes and occupying the area between the bankwaters and the Ghats.



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